

*Hafa Adai!*

# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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## OPINION METER

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## INSIDE



### Atonement

Would he ever find the right way to apologize? It didn't feel like it.

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### Model Moms

It's not just the feathered wings that give Victoria's Secret models their sexy swagger.

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PUC readies for shutdown in January. **PAGE 3**

**AS OF NOV. 25**

## USCIS: 2,759 petitioned



By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
[haidee\\_eugenio@saipantribune.com](mailto:haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

A total of just 1,458 CW petitions for 2,759 foreign workers were received by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services as of Nov. 25, barely three days before the Nov. 28 cutoff.

This is only 21 percent of the 13,399 foreign workers in the CNMI who are "potentially eligible" for Form I-129CW petitions, as stated in the final worker rule published in September.

"Undoubtedly, it is far below what we

See CW-1 on **Page 4**

### THE ONLY ONE

Edwin Olopai, a maintenance worker, puts the finishing touches on a set of Christmas decor on the door of the Special Assistant for Programs and Legislative Review office, so far the only one at the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill that has holiday decorations. This time last year, the governor's office already had a giant Christmas tree in the lobby but due to tight finances, it may not have one this year.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## October visitor arrivals down 4 pct.

October 2011 visitor arrivals to the Northern Mariana Islands were down 4 percent compared to October 2010, according to the Marianas Visitors Authority.

Data released yesterday showed that visitor arrivals to the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota totaled 24,693 in October compared to 25,784 in October 2010.

Arrivals from Japan dropped 23 percent to 8,696. In October the NMI received two daily flights from Narita compared to three daily flights in October 2010. This situation is expected to improve when Delta Air Lines launches a third weekly flight again on Dec. 29, 2011, supplementing the current two daily flights from Narita with four new flights a week using a Boeing 757 with 182 seats. Fly Marianas has announced that it is suspending its sporadic Nagoya-

Saipan service beginning Nov. 10, 2011.

Arrivals from the primary market of Korea dropped 9 percent in October to 7,880 arrivals as a result of a 10-percent decrease in total air seats compared to last October.

However, air service from the primary market will improve over the next several months. Asiana Airlines will operate

See **OCTOBER** on **Page 4**

## Aetna's rate hike plan is a go

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

The Department of Commerce has approved the rate hike proposal of insurance carrier Aetna Global, which will result in an 8- to 18-percent increase in the premiums of government employees

enrolled in the Group Health and Life Insurance program.

» **New plan to take effect Jan. 1 with 8- to 18-pct. increases**

Acting Commerce secretary Sixto Igisomar disclosed yesterday that the department's decision comes on the heels of information from the federal Department of Commerce.

See **AETNA** on **Page 4**

## Fund terminates remaining money managers

» **\$40M portfolio transferred to CDARs; other assets still in mutual funds**

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund is now operating without any money manager

pending the hiring of a new investment consultant, according to board of trustees chair Sixto Igisomar.

The agency used to have nine managers handling its assets invested in com-

mon stocks, fixed income, hedge funds, and money market. Since the passage of the Beneficiaries Derivative Act in September, some money managers resigned

See **FUND** on **Page 4**



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## Fitial offers Tinian as 'divert airfield' for Air Force

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has recommended the use of Tinian as an alternative site for an airfield to allow increased contingency operations, humanitarian assistance, and exercise capabilities for the U.S. Air Force.

Senate Vice President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) also recommended the use of Tinian, while Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) touted Rota—all to help the Air Force maintain a state of military readiness in line with its national defense mission in the western Pacific.

The U.S. Air Force requested for comments on its preparation of an environmental impact statement, or EIS, related to developing a "divert airfield alternative location to Andersen Air Force Base."

Fitial said the CNMI-Military Integration Management Committee welcomes the plan to consider Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, and will work with all federal agencies in completing this project.

"We recognize the advantages and disadvantages of each location and therefore would like to suggest that the island of Tinian would be the preferred location," Fitial said in a letter to U.S. Air Force Capt. Kimberly Bender.

As Hofschneider had pointed out, the U.S. Department of Defense has an existing 99-year lease of two-thirds of land on Tinian.

Hofschneider, in a phone interview yesterday, said he's thankful for the governor's endorsement of Tinian, but said they have yet to hear back from the Air Force.

The governor cited six distinct advantages that Tinian offers, including the airport's 1.5-mile distance from the closest residential development so noise issues shouldn't be a concern.

Fitial also said the Tinian port has a deep water harbor, is close to the airport, and is underutilized.

"The development of Tin-

ian will enhance other military buildup related activities. Existing runways can easily be expanded," he said.

The governor also said all lands in question are already public lands so it will not require purchase of any private lands.

"Over 95 percent of the people living on Tinian welcome this initiative and will be extremely supportive," Fitial added.

### EIS in April 2012

Tom Linden, CNMI-MMIC coordinator, said yesterday that the governor has not received a response nor does he expect to receive a formal response.

Linden said the draft Environmental Impact Statement that is scheduled to be released in April 2012 will most likely indicate which locations is preferred by the Air Force and why.

"At that time, we will have the opportunity to make additional comments either in support of or against the choice. The military has a very rigid process on these EISs and typically will brief the leadership with their findings prior to the next round of scoping meetings. This provides the MIMC Policy Committee a chance to ask questions and fully understand the reasoning behind DoD decisions," Linden told *Saipan Tribune*.

Linden said each of the CNMI's major islands has its unique advantages and disadvantages in this initiative.

"I am aware that some of the lawmakers sent individual letters endorsing their respective islands and understand their rationale. The MIMC Policy Committee, which consists of the governor, lieutenant governor, Senate president, speaker of the House, and all four mayors, agreed that we welcome the initiative on any of our islands but that Tinian would be our preferred location," he said.

Manglona said he's strongly recommending Rota as an alternative site because this is the southernmost island in the CNMI chain of islands, and its airport

has the closest airfield to Guam's Andersen Air Force Base.

He said the Rota airport has a limited flight schedule that satisfies the Air Force's need for any unscheduled landings, and Rota has large amounts of readily available land.

### Air Force requirements

In its planning assumptions, the Air Force said the optimal divert location should be a U.S. territory allowing sovereignty of action; has existing Federal Aviation Administration airfield facilities; and close to the Pacific "Rim of Fire" nations that might require disaster relief and humanitarian assistance.

It also has to be close to U.S. maritime transportation nodes and an available deep water port; has existing U.S. command and control telecommunication modules; and within reasonable distance (150 nautical miles) of Andersen Air Force Base.

The proposed divert location will use up to 12 KC-135 wide-bodied airplanes and 500 to 700 support personnel.

The Air Force said the purpose of the proposed action is to ensure a divert field—an alternative location to Andersen Air Force Base—exists "that can support emergency divert requirements, military training and exercises, and humanitarian relief operations within a reasonable distance to AAFB and the Philippine Sea."

The proposal would result in critical enhancements to an existing civilian airfield.

### Open process

The U.S. Air Force held open house scoping meetings in October on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota on the matter.

The meetings were held to support an early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed, and for identifying the significant issues related to the preparation of an EIS "aimed at assessing the potential environmental impacts from proposed development of divert capabilities within the Mariana Islands."



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## Public Utilities Commission readies for shutdown in Jan.

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

In anticipation of no new appointments for more commissioners, the one-person Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission adopted an interim assessment order Tuesday as it readies for the commission's closure next month.

Viola Alepuyo is currently the only member of the commission. Under the law, the commission is allowed to operate for only 60 days if it has just one commissioner. That 60-day period will expire on Jan. 30, 2012. The governor can extend this for just 30 days.

Pursuant to law, the commission must have at least five members. Alepuyo is the only one left following the resignation of other members, the latest of whom was Joaquin Manglona, who resigned on Nov. 1.

The Executive Branch has yet to name new commissioners as of yesterday.

Alepuyo, at the advice of the commission's legal counsel and in collaboration with the hearing examiner, has approved an interim administrative assessment fee of \$26,000 that will be collected from the agencies it regulates. The amount is the anticipated regulatory cost that will be incurred by the commission up to Jan. 30, 2012.

"In preparation for the anticipated closing on Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> until a new commissioner is appointed and confirmed, it is reasonable and necessary to impose interim administrative assessment on regulated utilities to retire outstanding fiscal year 2012 administrative expenses," Alepuyo's order states.

The interim regulatory fee

will be split among three agencies: the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will pay \$16,640, while IT&E and GTA Services LLC will each pay \$4,680.

According to Alepuyo, the commission anticipates 64 percent of its regulatory activities up to Jan. 30, 2012, to be devoted to CUC, while 18 percent will each be for IT&E and GTA Services.

CUC and the telecom companies were ordered to turn in the assessment fee within 30 days to Georgetown counsel Robert Torres, who will deposit the checks in a commission account.

A portion of the fee will be used to create the commission's website in response to concerns about the "lack of transparency" in its activities.

Alepuyo said the commission, due to the urgency of the need to build its website, has also approved a sole source contract for a firm to do the job and the website's maintenance. The charge, she said, is a one-time fee of \$175 while maintenance will be a flat rate of \$150 monthly. Alepuyo said the commission had solicited quotations from four companies but was able to get only one unresponsive response.

Alepuyo wants to see the commission's website up and running before Dec. 30.

The commission is scheduled to hold a public hearing and a business meeting before Jan. 30 where it is expected to decide on several matters, including a pending CUC petition for water and wastewater rate increase and an emergency petition to increase its electric base rate that has yet to be filed.

## 'No federal law bars out-of-status aliens from enrolling'

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

International students and nonresident workers who have no immigration status can still enroll at any local college because federal law does not prohibit them from doing so, according to Northern Marianas College president Sharon Hart.

She pointed out that research conducted by NMC showed that no provision in U.S. Public Law 110-229, the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, prohibits out-of-status aliens from enrolling at any college.

NMC shortened its fall semester this year to meet the needs of international enrollees. The fall semester starts in August and traditionally ends in December. Hart adjusted this from Aug. 22 to Nov. 26—two days before the expiration of the CNMI Department of Labor-issued umbrella permit on Nov. 28, 2011.

"The fall 2011 semester has ended. But one thing we discovered was that no federal law prohibits these students and alien workers who have no immigration status from

attending public higher education," Hart told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that they are free to enroll at the college.



Hart

The president said NMC strictly follows both local and federal laws and "if the law says there is something against it, I will follow it. But right now, I am not going to dispute what's in the federal law."

International students represent about 22 percent of NMC's population, which has close to a thousand students every semester.

Hart could not say for now

if this clarification will result in higher enrollments among international students.

Meantime, during Monday's Board of Regents meeting, Hart reported that the college petitioned five employees for H-1 visas. She said these nonresident workers have been serving NMC for many years and occupy key positions that are considered hard to fill.

Hart also reported that due to some immigration problems, one of its contractors and seven contract employees were relieved of their positions. Most of them were maintenance staff, security guards, and custodians.

"These contract workers have been serving our college for more than 12 years and it's really sad to see them go," she told the board.

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# Court OKs sale of defunct Ladera school

» Group of investors purchased property for \$505,000

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

The Superior Court has approved the sale of the defunct Ladera International School of Saipan to a group of investors for \$505,000.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman confirmed the sale of the Ladera property, a 20,207-square meter piece of lot located along side of Tun Joaquin Doi Road in Finasisu.

Wen Jun Kang and Valley of Glory Investment (USA) Corp. prevailed in the public auction attended by about 25 persons on Oct. 28. Attorney S. Joshua Berger served as auctioneer for Bank of Saipan Inc.

Ladera shut down in August 2010 after more than four years of operation.

In February 2011, Ladera's former owners—brothers Yong Nam Park and Yong Sung Park and their parent, Pil Hwan Park—filed a \$1-million lawsuit against the school's operator, Sung Yun Kim, for allegedly mismanaging the school and embezzling its funds.

In May 2011, Bank of Saipan, Inc. sued Ladera's former owner, Yong Nam Park, and the school's former operator, Sung Yun Kim, for allegedly failing to pay \$300,822 in loan and damages.

On July 25, 2011, the Superior Court granted a default judgment in

favor of Bank of Saipan. The court then granted the bank's request to appoint Berger as auctioneer for the sale of the property.

In his report filed in court on Nov. 18, Berger said that bids were made by three serious bidders during the Oct. 28 public auction.

Berger said he started the auction at \$330,000 but ultimately sold it to Wen Jun Kang and Valley of Glory Investment (USA) Corp. for \$505,000.

Berger said the successful purchaser paid all \$505,000.

"As of Nov. 18, 2011, the judgment sits at \$344,347.75. Add to that the costs incurred of \$7,044 and this

leaves a surplusage of \$153,608.25," the lawyer said.

Wiseman ordered Berger to deposit the surplusage of \$153,608.25

minus \$5,000 to cover future Bank of Saipan costs and fees, into the Registry of the Superior Court.

Wiseman said the surplusage shall be deposited in an interest bearing account pending resolution of all claims to this money.

## OAG twice amends case vs Mrs. Pai

The Office of the Attorney General has filed an amended information that now includes Joanna C. Pai's mother as co-defendant in the case over the alleged stealing of power utility services amounting to more than \$51,000.

Assistant attorney general Shelli Neal filed Monday the first amended information that charged Mrs. Pai and her mother, Columba I. Chong, with theft of utility services.

On Tuesday, Neal filed a second amended information to correct the criminal case number.

Mrs. Pai earlier pleaded not guilty

to the charge and, through counsel, former attorney general Rexford Kosack, filed a motion to dismiss the case.

In their motion to dismiss, Kosack stated that the only reason Mrs. Pai is being charged is that she is married to Public Auditor Michael Pai, who has attracted the ire of Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham.

Kosack said the facts alleged do not state an offense and that Mrs. Pai is not a customer as the utility account is in the name of another person. (**Ferdie de la Torre**)



Pai

## FUND

From Page 1

while the Fund terminated the contract of the rest.

Without an investment consultant, Igisomar said the Fund's board cannot make decisions about what to do with its investments.

Until a replacement for Wilshire Associates is hired, Igisomar said the board will stick with its decision to liquidate all investments and move them to CDARS, or certificate of deposit account registry service.

This liquidation of assets is in accordance with a new investment strategy that the board had adopted, called Glidepath 2013, which the Fund describes as a conservative transitional portfolio.

Wilshire was hired in October 2010 but it terminated its contract in September, citing the negative impact of the derivative law. That law allows beneficiaries of the government pension program to take legal action on behalf of the Fund when trustees who manage them refuse to bring such action.

According to Igisomar, the Fund's portfolio as of last week was at \$263 million; nearly \$40 million has already been transferred to CDARS. The rest of the assets, he said, are invested in mutual funds, while a portion is in a cash account.

The Fund, he said, is currently engaged with two mutual fund companies: PIMCO (Pacific Investment Management Company) and Vanguard.

In an early interview with Fund administrator Richard Villagomez, he said the ad for a new investment con-

sultant generated four applications.

Based on their initial communication with Villagomez, Igisomar said the applicants do not seem "favorable" for the Fund. He expressed willingness to re-announce the position if no qualified candidate is identified.

The Fund management has yet to complete its review of all applications.

Besides the investment consultant post, the Fund is also finding it difficult to look for an auditor and attorneys due to the impact of the beneficiaries derivative law. The Fund has already informed the Office of the Public Auditor that it may possibly not complete its annual audit report due to the lack of an independent auditor.

For the attorney post, the Fund may re-announce the position a third time after getting only one applicant in previous announcements.

## AETNA

From Page 1

ment of Health and Human Services, which reviewed Aetna's proposal to see if it complies with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, the federal law that reforms aspects of the private health insurance industry and public health insurance programs.

Igisomar said the federal agency told Commerce that Aetna, classified as a large group plan, cannot be subjected to federal review because it is not included in the categories stipulated in the federal act.

DHHS gave Commerce the authority

to decide on the rate increase options.

Pursuant to law, any insurance carrier wanting to implement an increase in their rates has to go through the local commerce's Insurance Commission Office for review and approval.

"We've done our review on Aetna's proposals and Commerce will not decline them," Igisomar said yesterday.

Under the new plan, government employees will have two options to choose from: the high option and the low option. In the high option, which has 80/20 percent sharing between the government and the member, the premium rate will increase by 18.54 percent. For the low option, which has a sharing of 70/30 percent, premiums

will increase by 8.73 percent.

The Fitial administration green-lighted the increases in October 2010.

According to press secretary Angel Demapan, the administration looked into the benefits incorporated under the new plan and found them satisfactory. Among these benefits are the no annual maximum, no lifetime plan maximum, and coverage of dependents up to age 26 regardless of student/residence/marital status. The new plan also adds service providers such as Philippine-based St. Luke's Medical Center and Makati Medical Center.

The new plan will become effective on Jan. 1, 2012, according to Igisomar.

## OCTOBER

From Page 1

Busan-Saipan charter flights from November 2011 to March 2012, representing a gain of 6,198 seats during this period. Also, Asiana Airlines boosted its Incheon-Saipan service from 10 to 14 weekly flights beginning Oct. 31, and in tandem with the increase in the number of weekly flights to double-daily service, has also increased the size of the aircraft on the route to Boeing 767s with 250 seats each. This will drive an additional 4,491 seats out of Seoul to the CNMI in November. Finally, Asiana has also upgraded its nighttime service to an Airbus 330 with 275 seats from Oct. 1 to Dec. 4, resulting in a gain of 4,312 seats.

The secondary market of China saw 5,134 arrivals in October, a 63-percent increase compared to the same month last year. Arrivals from Russia posted

a gain of 32 percent to 485 in October 2011. The MVA also reported a 69-percent growth in arrivals from Hong Kong in October to 108 visitors. Arrivals were also up in October from the United States (13 percent to 864), Guam (2 percent to 1,250), Philippines (26 percent to 54), and Other Areas (1 percent to 222).

### Economic highlights

In its October report, the Japanese Cabinet office said that the current economic recovery is expected to continue for the foreseeable future; however, the rebound in industrial production and exports has slowed. The report also indicates, for the first time since November 2010, that firms' outlook on current business conditions is improving.

A total of 1,645,000 Japanese traveled internationally in September, representing a 6.75-percent increase over the same period last year. As a result, the 2011 year-to-date total (12,525,388)

exceeded 2010 (12,493,873) for the first time since the earthquake in March, recording a modest 0.25-percent gain. The Japan National Tourism Organization, which releases the figures, remarked that recovery was swifter than expected, thanks to the strong value of the yen.

Since the earthquake in March, there has been a growing trend toward last-minute bookings as travelers keep one eye on the economy and the other looking for last-minute deals.

A survey by travel industry publication *Travel Journal* pointed out that even after Sept. 20, more bookings were still coming in for the end of September. As a result, short-haul destinations are selling better than long-haul destinations, due to the inherently shorter planning time. In addition, the Japanese Cabinet office conducted a consumer travel survey and found that travel demand is increasing for the October to December quarter. (**MVA**)

## CW-1

From Page 1

had anticipated," said press secretary Angel Demapan.

He said it is difficult to ascertain the reason for such low figures, although the Fitial administration believes the main reason is that USCIS—a component agency of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security—"waited so long" to come up with the final worker regulations.

"It could be a result of various factors such as a decline in private employers, restrictions on households being able to employ domestic helpers and farmers, but most of all, we believe the largest reason for the dismal preliminary data is the fact that USCIS waited so long to come up with regulations, policies, and processing guidelines. This was one of the reasons why the Fitial administration adamantly pushed for a much earlier release of the CW regulations," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

DHS published the CNMI transitional worker classification final rule in the Sept. 7 *Federal Register*.

The final rule came into effect on Oct. 7, and deadline for CW filing for uninterrupted employment was Nov. 28. A lawsuit has been filed, asking the court to stop DHS from enforcing the rule for at least 180 days from Nov. 28.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial sued the federal government over federalization. But attorney Steve Woodruff said DHS waited 22 months after the interim final rule was enjoined by a federal judge in November 2009 before issuing the final rule in September 2011.

### Latest data

USCIS regional media manager Sharon Rummery said yesterday that through Nov. 25, the California Service Center had data entered for 1,458 I-129CW petitions.

She said this figure does not include unprocessed petitions that were received late last week.

As of Friday, there were 678 petitions that were received but whose data have yet to be entered.

"A total of 2,759 CW-1 workers are sponsored on the petitions that have been data entered," Rummery told *Saipan Tribune*.

The petitions that have been data entered were filed by 454 employers.

Because the petitions are still under

initial review and USCIS has not issued any denial notices, there is still no data on denial.

Earlier, USCIS said there were about a dozen rejected but this meant that employers could correct their submission mistakes for consideration.

Form I-129CW is the form used by an employer to petition USCIS for an alien who is ineligible for another employment-based nonimmigrant classification to work as a nonimmigrant in the CNMI temporarily as a CW-1 transitional worker.

### Not surprising, yet

Richard Pierce, executive director of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, said the Chamber is "not really" surprised with the latest numbers.

He said given the long lines at post offices on Monday, he would hope that the numbers given by USCIS "will double, maybe triple, by the time all applications are received at USCIS in California."

"That's still a week of mail time remaining. If those numbers don't rise appreciably, we're looking at an attrition rate harsher than I believe anyone has anticipated. We estimated it would take three to five years for the closure of an entire industry to show itself in employment, population, and business activity," he said.

Up until Nov. 28, some employers were rushing to mail CW petitions for their foreign workers, although employers could still file after Nov. 28 but the employees covered cannot work until the CW petitions are granted.

Jun Concillado, manager of NCIC, a construction firm, said they waited for the last minute to file a CW-1 petition for one of their foreign workers, hoping for action on Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan's (Ind-MP) H.R. 1466 or USCIS' release of instructions for a one-year parole for immediate relatives of U.S. citizens and certain stateless individuals.

Nov. 28 came and went, but HR 1466 was not acted on by the U.S. House of Representatives, nor has USCIS issued instructions on how to file for parole that will be valid until Dec. 31, 2012.

When USCIS saw that as of Nov. 4, only 366 workers had been petitioned by CNMI employers, it held at least six sessions for employers on the filing of Form I-129CW, to help as many employers as possible fill out the form in petitioning their foreign employees ahead of the deadline.



## DLNR directed to remit \$30K to counsels for Pellegrino, MRC

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman has ordered the Department of Public Lands and Natural Resources to remit a total of \$30,000 to the attorneys for businessman Anthony Pellegrino and his Marine Revitalization Corp.

Wiseman directed DLNR to remit the \$10,000 that was appropriated by the Legislature in September 2011 for the pay-

ment of judgments to Pellegrino and MRC.

The judge also ordered DLNR to remit the \$20,000 that was previously appropriated for the payment of the judgments and ordered paid to Pellegrino and MRC on May 10, 2005.

If these monies are no longer available, Wiseman said that DLNR should account with the court what judgments these monies were applied to and when.

Wiseman held the hearing

on Pellegrino and MRC's motion for an order in aid of judgment last Nov. 17.

Attorney Michael Dotts appeared at the hearing for Pellegrino and MRC, while assistant attorney general David W. Lochabay represented DLNR. Attorney Thomas Clifford appeared for Mobil Oil Marianas Islands, Inc.

Pellegrino established MRC to build the \$3.5-million Outer Cove Marina in the mid-1990s. MRC and the govern-

ment's dispute began in 2001 after DLNR not only failed to bar commercial vessels from renting slip space at Smiling Cove but also actively solicited commercial lessees.

When the government refused to pay MRC, MRC couldn't pay Mobil. Mobil sued MRC to enforce MRC's promise to pay Mobil for the fueling facility at Outer Cove Marina.

In 2005, DLNR agreed to a court judgment ordering it to pay \$5.65 million to MRC or Pellegrino. DLNR, however, did not comply with the order, resulting in the court's three judgments in favor of MRC.

In October 2010, Pellegrino told the Legislature that the government's debt to the company has ballooned to \$8.5 million.

The government's debt was reduced to about \$5 million after the Supreme Court took away about \$3 million in interest. The Supreme Court held that judgments against the CNMI don't accrue interest.

Dotts told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the Supreme Court held that the courts are powerless to enforcement judgments and ruled that judgments must be paid by legislative appropriation.

"The most recent budget ap-

propriated only \$10,000 for the payment of all judgments against the CNMI," said Dotts in an email.

The lawyer said that MRC applied that it be given that amount since it had been appropriated and the court granted the motion.

"My belief, however, is that the \$10,000 is already gone. Once the CNMI doesn't pay the \$10,000 ordered we can find out where it went and how many judgments are awaiting payments by the CNMI and present that information to the court. This is the start of a new process to try to collect for MRC and for others we represent who are owed on judgments," Dotts said.

## Senate looks into Guam restrictions on some holders of CNMI driver's license

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A special Senate committee is now looking into Guam restrictions on CNMI youth holding CNMI driver's license for fewer than five years. These drivers are not being allowed to obtain a Guam driver's license unless they complete a Guam driver's education program first.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) created a special committee to look into the matter and report to the Senate leadership.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan's (Ind-MP) brought the matter to the attention of the Senate president and House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) early this month, saying this Guam restriction negatively impacts many of the CNMI's youth moving to Guam for schooling or for work.

"We have been informed that youth holding valid Northern Mariana Islands drivers' licenses for fewer than five years may not obtain a Guam driver's license unless they complete a Guam driver's education program, which entails 32 hours of classroom instruction and eight hours of road instruction," Sablan said.

He also said Guam law provides that the holder of a valid license issued by another territory, commonwealth, or state of the United States may operate a vehicle on the roads of Guam for a period not exceeding 30 days after the date of that person's arrival in Guam.

But Sablan said the driver's education program requirement does not apply to applicants from the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

He said this disparity exists because Guam adopted a "graduated driver licensing system" in 2000, but the CNMI does not employ such a system.

The Senate president named Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan) as head of the spe-

cial committee to look into this matter.

Reyes appointed as committee members Sen. Juan Ayuyu (Ind-Rota) and Sen. Henry San Nicolas (Cov-Saipan), along with legal counsel Antonette Villagomez, who will help the panel.

The delegate said there appears to be some logistical inconsistencies with respect to the Guam position on this matter.

He said one thing is certain—that this situation is logistically and financially detrimental to the CNMI youth living in Guam.


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<sup>2</sup> Macy's is not a sponsor or affiliated with this promotion or institution.

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# Joeten store launches 'Teen Corner' at Susupe branch

## » Models sought for December fashion show

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Joeten Shopping Center has opened a new section at its Susupe location, catering to the hip and fashionable teenagers and pre-teens on Saipan.

Teen Corner, which carries a wide range of styles for the younger crowd, was officially opened to the public last Friday.

The idea of putting together a section specially meant for adolescents came about as the popular retailer took on the daunting task of arranging their clothing merchandise.

"What we're trying to work on in the store is kind of organizing things more and spreading out clothing and we wanted to dedicate a section to the teens so we saw this as an opportunity to make changes," said marketing manager Frannie Demapan

yesterday.

Demapan, who came on board in October, said they want their patrons to know that the Joeten Shopping Center in Susupe carries fashionable clothing for teens and pre-teens at reasonable prices.

Teen Corner offers an array of clothes and outfits, including tops, dresses, shorts, pants, undergarments, and formal wear. It also provides a selection of accessories like bags, wallets, and footwear in different styles, colors, and textures.

"We are a one-stop shopping location," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*. "You can come here for clothing but you can leave with shoes, underwear, even gifts for other members of the family. They can find everything they need right here."

Demapan noted that their prices are highly competitive, with only some of the items a bit more expensive as they are made in the U.S. mainland "so we have to adjust to that."



Joeten marketing manager Frannie Demapan stands in front of the newly opened Teen Corner at Joeten Shopping Center in Susupe. The new section was officially opened to the public on Friday.

CLARISSA V. DAVID



Teen Corner offers an array of clothing pieces such as pants, shorts, dresses, and blouses for teens and pre-teens on island. It also provides a wide range of accessories, from wallets to shoes.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

"But during sale days, our prices are pretty decent," she added.

In fact, Demapan said they also opened a clearance corner next to Bestseller for those who are looking for great deals and bargains for men, women, teens, and babies this holiday.

"They can go there and all our items are 50 to 75 percent off," she said.

Demapan said that Joeten goes on a bulk buying trip several times a year so customers can expect to see different styles as often as they want. "I just want people to know that we're still expanding it," she said. "We're always adding new items and... people should check in every week with us."

Demapan, who once taught at Kagman High School, added

that she will have the hottest trends in fashion when she acquires new stocks for their next shipment early next year.

While the Teen Corner is dedicated exclusively for teens and pre-teens, Demapan pointed out that the Joeten Shopping Center appeals to shoppers of all ages.

With the holidays just around the corner, Demapan disclosed that they will host a Christmas Fashion Show at their Susupe location on Dec. 17 at 7pm to give patrons a chance to view the latest trends.

"We're currently looking for

models for men, women, teens, pre-teens, toddlers, and plus sizes. We'd like them to come showcase our clothing. They'll be rewarded with a gift certificate and a clothing of their choice," she said.

Those who are interested to join can stop by the Joeten Susupe and ask for Demapan.

"We invite all teens to come and check out our new Teen Corner. We always have sales clerks who'd be more than happy to assist you and get you your size or another style," she said.

For more information, call 234-6445.

## Filipinos mark Bonifacio's 148th birthday

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

which reads:

*Aling pag-ibig pa ang hihigit kaya*

*Sa pagkadalisan at pagkadalila*

*Gaya ng pag-ibig sa tinubuang lupa,*

*Aling pag-ibig pa? Wala na nga, wala.*

(No other love is purer and greater than the love for one's country.)

Labor representative Carmelina F. Velasquez described Bonifacio as "a symbol of courage and bravery" and is among the leading heroes of the Philippines.

Bonifacio's significance, Velasquez said, is manifested through House Bill 4353, known as the Andres Bonifacio Act of 2011, which seeks to include in the college curriculum a course focusing on Bonifacio's life, works, and ideals.

"That's how important Bonifacio is," Velasquez told *Saipan Tribune*. "We should fully recognize his heroism."

Velasquez added, "I just hope that although we're here in the CNMI, we should not forget the great courage of our heroes, and Bonifacio is one of them. Even if we're away from home, Bonifacio should still remain in our hearts and minds."

Filipinos all over the world yesterday paid tribute to revolutionary hero and nationalist Andres Bonifacio on his 148th birth anniversary.

Bonifacio was one of the several founders and served as the *supremo* or supreme leader of the *Kataastaasang Kagalangang Katipunan ng mga Anak ng Bayan* or simply the *Katipunan* movement that sought the independence and freedom of the Philippines from Spanish colonial rule through armed struggle.

Nov. 30 was declared a national holiday on Feb. 16, 1921, when the Philippine Legislature passed Act No. 2946 to commemorate Bonifacio's birth.

"Bonifacio never lived to see the fruits of his work but he remains admired and revered for his critical role in Philippine history," said Philippine Consul General Medardo Macaraig.

Macaraig urged Filipinos in the CNMI to commemorate Bonifacio's martyrdom by living his ideals as outlined in his celebrated poem, *Pag-Ibig sa Tinubuang Lupa* (Love for the Homeland), the first stanza of



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- Contact 989-2468 (pictures on MCV Garage sale webpage)

## NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING for Saipan Mayor's Office Dog Transfer Shelter

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for a Conditional Use permit. The Saipan Mayor's office Dog Control Program is proposing to operate a Dog Transfer Shelter on lot 012-H17. This area is located in between Casilda and Konsolacion Streets behind the U.S. Post Office in Chalan Kanoa.

**Date:** December 14, 2011

**Time:** 5:00 pm

**Place:** Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd flr,  
Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the projects may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office no later than 4:30pm, December 13, 2011. Written comments may also be submitted via email to [therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp](mailto:therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp), via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman



# Traffic signal at SV-Dandan junction to be activated Friday

The Department of Public Works is informing the public that it will activate the traffic signal in the

San Vicente/Dandan intersection on Friday, Dec. 2.

DPW officials and staff were

at the site yesterday to test all the lights in the three-way traffic signal and ensure that ev-

## 3 senators in China, Fitial in Hong Kong

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial left yesterday morning for Hong Kong on personal leave, while three senators—Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) and Sen. Juan Ayuyu (Ind-Rota)—are in China on official business.

The Senate postponed today's session to Dec. 15 because of conflict with the China trip, which is at the invitation of a

Chinese group of investors interested in renewable energy projects in the CNMI.

Acting Senate president Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) said he could only confirm that the three senators are in China and would be back this weekend.

Acting governor Eloy S. Inos and press secretary Angel Demapan separately confirmed yesterday the governor's off-island

trip. Fitial is primarily attending the wedding of a godson.

Demapan said the governor left with first lady Josie Fitial, and they are expected back on Dec. 8.

The press secretary said he has yet to confirm whether Fitial will stop by the Philippines on his way back to Saipan for a medical checkup. *(Haidee V. Eugenio)*

## Bills to transfer 2 DCCA offices, set up NMD institute

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Two separate bills pre-filed on Monday seek to transfer two offices under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs to the Indigenous Affairs Office, and establish a Northern Marianas Descent Institute.

Rep. Ralph Demapan's (Cov-Saipan) House Bill 7-244 transfers the responsibility for the administration and operation of the Historic Preservation Office and the Chamorro-Carolinian Language Policy Commission from DCCA to the Office of the Resident Executive for Indigenous Affairs.

In order to effectuate this, he said it is necessary to transfer the Office of the Resident Ex-

ecutive for Indigenous Affairs back to the Office of the Governor.

In his bill, Demapan said the transfer will "align the programs under an office constitutionally designated to oversee the very same programs and missions that is currently duplicative within [DCCA]."

It will also consolidate support functions where possible, and therefore reduce the cost to the government of maintaining these programs.

The transfer of offices within DCCA was among the recommendations of an independent desk audit on DCCA and the Department of Public Safety last year.

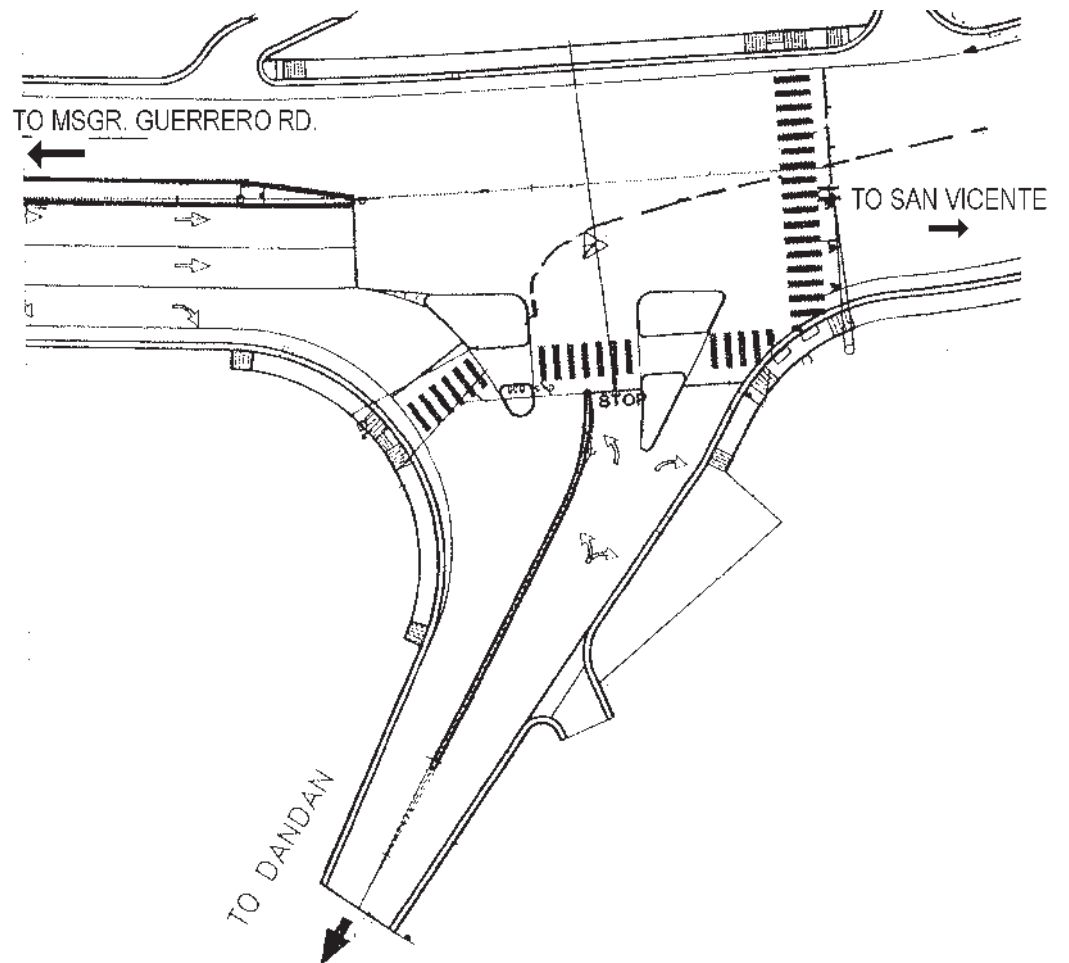
The Fitial administration had said that, instead of a mere issu-

ance of an executive order, they would also like the transfers to be done through legislation.

The House session, however, was twice postponed Tuesday, so the bill was not formally introduced.

House vice speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan) also pre-filed HB 17-245, establishing a Northern Marianas Descent Institute, a non-profit public corporation for persons of Northern Marianas descent that will set up a school and job training program.

Funding for this will come from interest accrued on the proceeds of the Marianas Public Land Trust Fund that MPLT transfers to the general revenues for legislative appropriation to such non-profit corporation.



everything is fully functional to facilitate traffic flow in the area and for the safety of motorists passing by.

"We want to activate it because it's a critical section due to the nearby schools and church in that area," highway administrator Sonya Pangelinan-Dancoe told *Saipan Tribune*.

The traffic signal is part of the

first phase of a large road construction project in the area. The project is fully funded by the Federal Highway Administration under the U.S. Department of Transportation.

A ribbon cutting ceremony that would mark the functioning traffic signal is slated next week.

While the project still has

many components that remain to be completed, DPW Secretary Martin C. Sablan noted that having the traffic signal up and running is a welcome development.

"We're glad we're coming down to the end. Although there's still a lot to be done, we're working just fine," said Sablan. *(Clarissa V. David)*

**GSA**

**GSA Public Buildings Service**

U.S. GOVERNMENT SEEKS TO LEASE APPROXIMATELY 40,000 RENTABLE SQUARE FEET (RSF) OF EXISTING OFFICE SPACE IN SAIPAN

### REQUIREMENT:

The United States Government is seeking to lease existing office and related space consisting of approximately 40,000 RSF on the island of Saipan.

The space must yield a minimum of 35,000 ANSI/BOMA ("Useable") square feet to a maximum of 36,500 ANSI/BOMA square feet of space. The anticipated term is 20 years as a fully serviced lease. The estimated occupancy date is November of 2013.

The Government requires sufficient parking for privately owned vehicles and visitor parking. Buildings offered for consideration must be of sound and substantial construction of the type generally recognized as contemporary with the ability to demonstrate meeting all current Federal/GSA-PBS and local codes and regulations including but not limited to fire and life safety, free of asbestos, accessibility (Architectural Barriers Act Accessibility Standard (ABAAS) compliant or, if not, landlord must be willing to make the building fully ABAAS compliant), OSHA, and seismic standards.

### SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Expressions of interest must be submitted via email and should include the following information at minimum:

- \* Building name/location
- \* Location of space in the building and date it will be available
- \* Drawing of space offered
- \* ANSI/BOMA (usable) square feet and Rentable Square Feet (RSF) offered
- \* Name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address of authorized contact
- \* Written evidence of authorization to represent the building's ownership

### AUTHORIZED CONTACTS:

In no event shall a potential offeror enter into negotiations or discussions concerning a space to be leased with representatives of any Federal agency other than the authorized officers and employees of the General Services Administration (GSA).

Forward pertinent and complete information by e-mail to [ryan.geertsma@gsa.gov](mailto:ryan.geertsma@gsa.gov) by COB December 9, 2011.

## HEALTH WALK DECEMBER 03, 2011



### Registration Information:

**Saipan: 5:30am to 8:00am – 13 Fisherman Pavilion**

**Tinian: 6:00am to 8:00am – Tachog'na Beach**

**Rota: 6:00am to 8:00am – Joaquin M. Ogo Softball Field**

Original was designed in 2009 by Winona Blanco-Maratita  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade Tinian High School



# Water outage today in Dandan, Airport Road

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the residents of Dandan and Airport Road that a 10-hour water outage is scheduled for today, Dec. 1, 2011, from 7:30am to 5:30pm.

The purpose of this outage is

to allow CUC and AIC Marianas to replace an existing valve and make a piping connection on the water lines in these areas.

The water outage will affect residents living on Holiday Drive to Flame Tree Drive, Natibu Place and Independence

Loop, as well as residents living along Airport Road from the Adios sign to the Mobil station.

Because of the scale of the work to be performed, CUC recommends that travelers take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through

the affected areas. CUC apologizes, in advance, for any inconvenience resulting from these projects and the water service interruption.

For more information, call the CUC Water & Wastewater Division at 322-5030. (CUC)

## IN RESPONDING TO RAYPHAND'S LAWSUIT

# Fund incurs \$5,685 in attorneys' fees

The NMI Retirement Fund notified the district court yesterday that it incurred \$5,685 in attorneys' fees in responding to Sapuro Rayphand's bid to transfer the Fund's lawsuit against the Fitial administration from the Superior Court to the federal court.

Fund counsel Braddock J. Huesman asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI to award attorneys' fees in the

amount of \$5,685, made payable to the Fund.

Huesman declared that he spent 37.9 hours in responding to Rayphand's meritless notice of removal and the accompanying cross-motion to strike. Rayphand is a Commonwealth Retirement Association board member.

Huesman submitted the billings in response to designated Judge Frances M. Tydingco-

Gatewood's ruling that found Rayphand's removal of the Fund's lawsuit improper.

In that order, Tydingco-Gatewood remanded the Fund's lawsuit to the Superior Court and ordered Rayphand to pay attorney's fees and costs to the Fund.

In the eight-page order, Tydingco-Gatewood noted that much of Rayphand's argument for intervention is nonsensical and unrelated to the issues at hand.

Attorney Bruce Jorgensen served as counsel for Rayphand.

On Sept. 8, 2011, Rayphand, through Jorgensen, notified the district court that he wants the Fund's lawsuit against the CNMI government to be removed from the Superior Court and transferred to the federal court.

Rayphand stated that it has been more than two years now since associate judge Govendo rendered a \$230 million judgment in the case yet there has been little, if any, meaningful steps toward enforcement of that judgment. (Ferdie de la Torre)



## PDM FUNDRAISER

Japanese tourists show off their Saipanda items that they acquired through the Stamp Rally campaign of PDM Promoters, Inc. Inset, the silicone wristbands, bearing the Saipanda logo, the words "Saipan, Tinian, Rota," and the message "Pray for Japan" at 12 distribution centers on island, were sold for \$3 each to raise funds to help the victims of the devastating earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan in March. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### USS Columbia to make first visit to Saipan

The USS *Columbia*, a Los Angeles class submarine, and the eighth ship of the U.S. Navy to carry that name, will arrive at Charlie Dock Thursday morning around 10am. The USS *Columbia* will carry 110 officers and crew and will making its first visit to Saipan. The USS *Columbia* is scheduled to depart at the beginning of next week.

The USS *Columbia* was launched on Sept. 24, 1994, with the traditional slide down a 1,300-foot wooden ramp, the last American submarine expected to be launched in this dramatic fashion. Future submarines built in the United States will be launched by flooding the dry dock where they are built. *Columbia* was sponsored by Hillary Rodham Clinton, and commissioned on Oct. 9, 1995. Currently, USS *Columbia* is under the command of Commander Dennis J. Klein, with Lt. Commander Melvyn Naidas as his executive officer, and Master Chief Donald Williams Jr. as its chief of the boat. (SCC)

### DEQ brigade seeks volunteers for cleanup

The Division of Environmental Quality monthly cleanup brigade is deviating from its regular 1st Saturday of the month schedule and has scheduled its December cleanup on Dec. 17, 2011, picking up trash at Old Man by the Sea, Saipan. The beach is littered with float and jet-stream trash and it needs our help so DEQ is asking for more volunteers to join this particular cleanup.

If you would like to volunteer, please meet the DEQ representative on Saturday, Dec. 17, at 8am along the road heading to Kingfisher Golf. Volunteers will split into groups and clean until 10am and break for drinks and then continue, if needed.

This month, outstanding brigade volunteers who participated in at least 10 monthly cleanups will receive a brigade cap and those who participated in at least three cleanups will receive a green bri-

gade t-shirt.

For more information about volunteering, contact the DEQ office at 664-8500/1. (DEQ)

### Pohnpei runoff election this Dec. 6

Pohnpei State runoff election for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, Dec. 6, at the Garapan Central Park Round House. Pohnpei incumbent Gov. John Ehsa will face former three-term governor Johnny David for the top post of governor. In the lieutenant governor's race, a lady candidate topped three men in the general election to lead the race for the lieutenant governor's post. Kiuahmina Albert will face Kolonia Town Mayor Marcello Peterson in the race for the lieutenant governor's seat. The polls will open at 7am to 7pm. All eligible voters from Pohnpei are urged to participate in this important election. For more information, contact your community leaders. (PR)

### Drivers urged to watch out for cyclists

Motorists are being urged to be particularly cautious when driving on the morning of Saturday, Dec. 3, when the CNMI hosts the 5th Annual Hell of the Marianas Century Cycle.

Cyclists will be riding in packs from 6:30am to 9:30am on the northbound lane of Isa Drive near San Vicente, Papago, Kagman and Capital Hill. There will be cones to indicate the bike lane as well as DPS officers and official media vehicles. If motorists can circumvent these portions of Isa Drive in the morning, it will prevent heavy traffic congestion and enhance safety for all.

For additional safety measures, the public is being encouraged to restrain their dogs in the morning along the route.

Drivers are being urged to be careful as more bicyclists will be training from now until Saturday, Dec. 3, 2011. (PR)

# Flashback

## A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Dec. 1, 1999

### Ingram hits Cepeda's 'racial' attacks

Public Safety Commissioner Charles W. Ingram yesterday lashed back at Rep. Frank G. Cepeda for blaming him for the alleged morale problem in the police, saying his accusation of "lack of leadership" in the department is stale. He also questioned the chair of the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee on the results of an oversight hearing on DPS that Mr. Cepeda called earlier this year in the wake of last March's prison standoff and string of jailbreaks. "What morale problem does Congressman Cepeda allude to? Is this... from DPS personnel being overworked and underpaid," Ingram said in a statement.

### MTC vows to fight phone rate hike

Despite IT&E's recent decision to drop its legal challenge, Micronesian Telecommunications Corp. and its parent, GTE Corp., continue to pursue their appeal of the Federal Communications Commission's rate integration policy. If successful, MTC/GTE's lawsuit could result in significant rate increase for CNMI consumers who make off-island telephone calls to Guam or the mainland U.S., according to a press release issued by the Governor's Public Information Office. Under the FCC's rate integration policy, carriers operating in the CNMI (as well as Hawaii, Guam and American Samoa) are required to conform their long distance telephone rates with the generally lower rates which they charge consumers in the U.S. mainland.

Dec. 1, 2000

### NMIRF taps OPA to help fix accounting system

Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund Administrator Juan S. Torres has asked the Office of the Public Auditor to help the \$400-million financial institution improve its accounting system. The Fund has hired the services of Brian Macmillan to make sure that its accounting system is in compliance with the OPA recommendations. But Mr. Macmillan is apparently no longer interested to continue providing services due to the recent controversy involving his contract. Mr. Torres said the OPA has pledged to help the Fund fix its accounting system at least temporarily. "This is priority because this is a \$400-million institution. Imagine the implications if we cannot even count our assets correctly—it will be a disaster," he said.

### MVA rejects 'shooting resort' plan

The Marianas Visitors Authority Board yesterday opposed a proposed legislation that will ease the tough gun control law in the CNMI to accommodate the establishment of so-called shooting resort in the Northern Marianas. In a monthly meeting, the board said it is leaving to Rota and Tinian leaders the decision if they would want shooting resorts on their island-municipalities. Although Board Chair Dave M. Sablan supports the proposed legislation, he sought a consensus among the board members so that MVA can submit a unified stand to the Legislature.

Dec. 1, 2002

### Governor to go after taxes meant for NMI

Gov. Juan N. Babauta has made tax collection another thrust in his trip to Washington D.C. this coming week, as he disclosed plans to meet with officials of the Internal Revenue Service to recoup taxes that Northern Marianas residents have paid to the federal government. Babauta, in a news conference Friday, said that over the years, CNMI soldiers and federal employees based in the Commonwealth have forked out tax obligations that should have been channeled to local coffers. "I think it's time the IRS turn over to us the money they have collected that should be ours. And I'll be signing the necessary agreements to begin the release of these taxes that have been withheld," Babauta said.

### \$500K set aside to enhance crosswalks

House members have agreed to set aside half-a-million dollars to upgrade Saipan pedestrian crosswalks by adding signal beacons to warn motorists of crossing pedestrians. The House, in a resolution it adopted last week, is pressing for the installation of warning flashers as a deterrent to the high count of traffic and pedestrian related accidents, some of which have led to fatalities. Legislators are also worried that a big chunk of road accident victims have been tourists visiting the Northern Marianas. The House Resolution, authored by Vice Speaker Manuel A. Tenorio, seeks to re-allocate \$500,000 from the Transportation Improvement Plan Fiscal Year 2003, specifically from the Beach Road Hazard Elimination Project.



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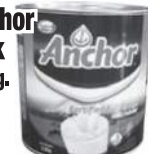















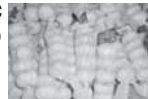

























































































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<b>Chicken Leg Quarter</b>  LIMIT 1 <b>\$25<sup>99</sup></b> <b>\$19<sup>99</sup></b> 22 LBS.	<b>Whole Chicken</b>  <b>\$37<sup>99</sup></b> 30 LBS.	<b>Baby Ribs</b>  <b>\$19<sup>99</sup></b> /CASE	<b>Spareribs</b>  <b>\$21<sup>99</sup></b> 20 LBS.	<b>Milkfish</b>  <b>\$1<sup>59</sup></b> /LB. <b>Tilapia</b>  <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b> /LB.	<b>Similac/Enfamil</b>  <b>\$15<sup>99</sup></b> 12.5 OZ.	<b>Promil</b> Ages 4 Up 1.8 KG.  <b>\$25<sup>99</sup></b> Ages 1 to 3 1.8 KG. <b>\$27<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Anchor Milk</b> 2.5Kg.  <b>\$28<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Gain Plus</b> Ages 1 to 3 1.8 KG.  <b>\$29<sup>99</sup></b>				
<b>Chicken Wings</b>  <b>\$11<sup>99</sup></b> 5 LBS.	<b>Banquet Sausage Links</b>  <b>\$1<sup>79</sup></b> 7 OZ. All Flavors	<b>Gusto Ham</b>  <b>\$16<sup>99</sup></b> 10 LBS.	<b>Ground Beef</b>  <b>\$10<sup>99</sup></b> 5 LBS.	<b>Beef Backribs</b> 20 LBS.  <b>\$27<sup>99</sup></b> /CASE	<b>Squid</b> 1 LB.  <b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> BOX	<b>Seaport Imitation Crab Stick</b>  <b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Hotlinks Sausage</b> 1.5 LB.  <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Carrots</b>  <b>99¢</b> /BAG				
<b>Ichiban</b>  <b>\$10<sup>95</sup></b> /BOX	<b>Nong Shim Korean Soba</b>  <b>\$7<sup>99</sup></b> /CASE	<b>Rice Stick</b>  <b>\$1<sup>19</sup></b> /8 OZ. <b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> /16 OZ.	<b>Flour Stick</b>  <b>99¢</b> /8 OZ. <b>\$1<sup>89</sup></b> /16 OZ.	<b>Cabbage</b>  <b>89¢</b> /LB.	<b>Garlic</b> (3 pcs.)  <b>99¢</b> /PACK	<b>Potato (Jumbo)</b>  <b>89¢</b> /LB.	<b>Orange</b>  <b>99¢</b> /LB.	<b>Apple Cello</b>  <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> /PACK				
<b>Spam (All Flavors)</b>  <b>\$2<sup>39</sup></b>	<b>Hormel Corned Beef Hash</b>  <b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Ox &amp; Palm Corned Beef</b>  <b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Black Label</b>  <b>\$1<sup>79</sup></b>	<b>Libby's Vienna Sausage</b>  <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b> 9oz	<b>Armour Vienna Sausage</b>  <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> /6 PACK	<b>Ace Tuna</b>  <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b>	<b>Bumblebee Tuna</b>  <b>89¢</b>	<b>Sunflower Tuna</b>  <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b>	<b>Coco Tuna</b>  <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b>	<b>Master A1 Tuna</b>  <b>\$1<sup>29</sup></b>	<b>Ligo Sardines</b>  <b>3 for \$1<sup>00</sup></b>	
<b>Kimchee Base</b>  <b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b> 450G	<b>Hormel Chili No Beans</b>  <b>\$1<sup>79</sup></b>	<b>Hunts Pork &amp; Beans</b>  <b>99¢</b> 390g	<b>Dinty Moore Beef Stew</b> 15 OZ.  <b>\$1<sup>69</sup></b>	<b>DelMonte Whole Kernel Corn</b>  <b>89¢</b>	<b>Del Monte Sliced Pineapple</b>  <b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Maggie Savor</b> 250ml.  <b>99¢</b>	<b>Kikkoman</b>  <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> 1.6 L	<b>Salt</b>  <b>89¢</b>	<b>Gold Medal Flour</b>  <b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b> 5 LBS.	<b>Maseka Flour</b> 5 lb.  <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Korean Flour</b> 5 lb.  <b>\$3<sup>79</sup></b>	<b>Corn Starch</b>  <b>99¢</b> 1 LB.
<b>Marfan Banana Catsup</b> 3.9kg  <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Crisco Shortening</b>  <b>\$5<sup>49</sup></b> 3 LB.	<b>Crisco Pure Vegetable Oil</b> 1 Gal  <b>\$10<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Golden State White Distilled Vinegar</b> 1 GALLON  <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Salad Oil</b>  <b>\$29<sup>99</sup></b> 5 GALLON/TN <b>\$32<sup>99</sup></b> 5 GALLON/BOX	<b>Minola Lauric Oil</b> 1 Gal  <b>\$8<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Chorizzos</b>  <b>\$27<sup>99</sup></b> LIMIT 1	<b>Vlassic Dill Pickles</b>  <b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b> SLICED <b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b> WHOLE	<b>Lemon Powder</b>  <b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b> /CASE	<b>Sugar</b>  <b>\$14<sup>9</sup></b> 1 KG. <b>\$29<sup>9</sup></b> 2 KG.	<b>Best Food Mayonnaise</b> 64 OZ.  <b>\$7<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>GB Extra Heavy Mayonnaise</b>  <b>\$9<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>U.S. Eggs XL</b>  <b>\$21<sup>9</sup></b> /DOZ. <b>Local Eggs L</b>  <b>\$28<sup>9</sup></b> /DOZ.
<b>Nestea Iced Tea Mix</b>  <b>\$8<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Royal Spaghetti</b> 1 Kg.  <b>\$2<sup>39</sup></b>	<b>Royal Salad/Elbow Macaroni</b> 1 Kg.  <b>2 for \$5<sup>00</sup></b>	<b>Fiesta Spaghetti Sweet Blend Sauce</b> 500g.  <b>\$1<sup>79</sup></b>	<b>Kellogs Corn Pop</b> 12.5 OZ.  <b>2 for \$5<sup>00</sup></b> <b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b> EACH	<b>Fita/Skyflakes/ Sunflower Crackers</b>  <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> 850 G.	<b>Real Fresh</b> 1 LITER  <b>\$20<sup>99</sup></b> /CASE	<b>Carnation Evap Milk</b>  <b>\$1<sup>19</sup></b> FROM U.S. <b>89¢</b> FROM PHILIPPINES	<b>Nestle Cream</b> 300g  <b>2 for \$3<sup>00</sup></b>	<b>Coffee Mate</b> 50oz  <b>\$8<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Maxwell House Coffee Mix</b>  <b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> 20 STICKS <b>\$7<sup>99</sup></b> /100 STICKS	<b>Nestea Four Season</b>  <b>2 for \$3<sup>00</sup></b> 450G	<b>Magnolia Juice Mix</b>  <b>2 for \$3<sup>00</sup></b>
<b>Magnolia Water</b> 35 BOTTLES=  <b>\$8<sup>99</sup></b> /CASE	<b>Kool Aid</b> 22 QT.  <b>\$8<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Tang</b> 22 QT.  <b>\$8<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Chamorro Punch</b> 2 LITERS  <b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b> BOTTLE	<b>Wilkins</b>  <b>\$2<sup>99</sup></b> 6000 ML.	<b>Seok Su Water</b> 550 mL 20 Bottles  <b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b> /CASE	<b>Sunkist Juice</b>  <b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b> /CASE	<b>Kato Juice</b> <b>2 for \$1<sup>00</sup></b> /CASE <b>\$7<sup>99</sup></b> /CASE	<b>Coke (All Flavors)</b>  WARM ONLY <b>\$14<sup>99</sup></b> /CASE	<b>San Miguel Beer Light/Pale Pilsen Can</b>  WARM ONLY <b>\$21<sup>99</sup></b> /CASE	<b>San Miguel Beer Bottled</b>  WARM ONLY <b>\$23<sup>99</sup></b> /CASE	<b>Red Horse Beer</b> 1000 ML.  <b>\$14<sup>99</sup></b> /CASE	<b>Budlight/ Budweiser</b> Warm only  <b>\$27<sup>99</sup></b> /CASE
<b>Tide Detergent</b>  <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> 2.8 KG. <b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b> 5 KG.	<b>Gain Powder</b> LIMIT 2  <b>\$17<sup>99</sup></b> 120 LOADS	<b>Gain Liquid Detergent (All Kinds)</b>  <b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b> 50 OZ.	<b>Purex Laundry Soap</b>  <b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Joy Dish.</b>  <b>\$5<sup>99</sup></b> 90 OZ. <b>\$7<sup>99</sup></b> 90 OZ. Dawn Dish.	<b>Luv's Big Box (All Sizes)</b>  <b>\$17<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Mega Drypers (All Sizes)</b>  <b>\$14<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Silky Baby Wipes</b>  <b>\$1<sup>39</sup></b>	<b>Charmin Regular</b>  <b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b> 24 ROLLS	<b>Bounty Paper Towel</b> SELECT A SIZE  <b>\$18<sup>99</sup></b> 15 ROLLS	<b>Huggies Snug &amp; Dry</b> MEGA SIZES 3, 4, 5, & 6  <b>\$14<sup>99</sup></b>		
<b>Colgate Regular</b> 150ml  <b>2 for \$3<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Pantene Shampoo &amp; Conditioner</b> (All Kinds) 375ml  <b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b> EACH	<b>Head &amp; Shoulders</b> (All Kinds) 420ml  <b>\$4<sup>99</sup></b> EACH	<b>Palmolive Shampoo &amp; Conditioner</b>  <b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b> EACH	<b>Diamond Foil</b>  <b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b> 200 sq.ft.	<b>Axxion Foam Plates</b> 125 CT  <b>\$6<sup>99</sup></b> LIMIT 1	<b>Assorted Food Containers</b>  <b>\$1<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Gillete Fusion</b> 4 Cartridges 4 Cartouches  <b>\$16<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>Clorox</b>  <b>\$3<sup>29</sup></b> 3 OZ.	<b>Prize Dog Food</b> 20 LBS.  <b>\$19<sup>99</sup></b>	<b>1 Burner Gas Stove</b>  <b>\$11<sup>99</sup></b>		



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI  
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR  
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## EDITORIAL

### When droids take your job

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The stubbornly high unemployment rate has left policymakers wondering whether there's something more at work than just an unusually steep recession. Have the country, its businesses and its markets changed in some fundamental way, leaving millions of Americans with skills that are no longer needed? Economists are sharply divided on that point, but two from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology make a compelling argument that the technology revolution is vaporizing careers faster than many Americans can embark on new ones.

When productivity increases, that tends to boost wealth and economic growth. Yet even though productivity grew faster in the past decade than it has since the 1960s, job growth was slower than it has been since the Depression, even ignoring the huge job losses in 2008 and 2009. And median income—the dividing line between the top 50 percent of annual earnings and the bottom 50 percent—fell for the first time since the Bureau of Labor Statistics started tracking that figure in the 1950s.

Economist Tyler Cowan of George Mason University blames technology, or rather, the lack of major innovations of the sort that revolutionized economies in previous centuries and created entire industries in the first half of the 1900s. But that ignores the incredible leap represented by computers and the Internet, which have given rise to mini-industries on the platforms they've created. Think about the retail opportunities presented by eBay and Amazon, the applications and services made possible by Facebook, the mobile universe opened up by smartphones.

MIT economists Erik Brynjolfsson and Andrew McAfee have a different theory, which they discussed in a new e-book titled "Race Against the Machine" and at the recent Technonomy conference in Tucson. They argue that rapid technological advances have caused a structural change in the economy that many U.S. workers and institutions simply aren't prepared for.

At the root of the change is the phenomenon that microchip pioneer Gordon Moore first noted 46 years ago: the doubling of chip processing power every year to 18 months. That relentless improvement is enabling computers, which once were considered capable only of crunching numbers or following detailed instructions, to take on more complex tasks that involve recognizing patterns and responding to unanticipated events. For example, Brynjolfsson and McAfee noted that Google programmed a fleet of Toyota Priuses to drive themselves safely across California roadways last year, and software has progressed from understanding spoken words to grasping the meaning of a sentence. As processing power continues to double, those capabilities will improve dramatically and expand to more devices.

Computers still aren't very good at creative tasks, such as generating ideas or finding ways to apply lessons from one experience in a totally different context. But in Tucson, McAfee asserted that "the list of things humans are demonstrably better at than computers is shrinking pretty dramatically." Brynjolfsson observed that about 60 percent of U.S. workers perform "information processing tasks," and "it's hard to think of any of those that won't be profoundly affected and possibly eliminated by these technologies."

See DROIDS on Next Page

NASA SPENDS \$2.5  
BILLION GOING TO MARS...

THE SEARCH FOR INTELLIGENT LIFE CONTINUES.

WHILE AMERICAN KIDS  
GO HUNGRY.

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## A new Advent journey

*Editor's Note: The following is the complete text of the pastoral letter that was read during Masses on Sunday, Nov. 27, 2011, at all Catholic churches in the Commonwealth.*

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, greeting of peace!

Advent is a season of new beginnings.

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the beginning of a new cycle in the Church's liturgical calendar. This year's Advent is quite unique because all Catholics in the English-speaking dioceses officially start using the new Roman Missal, which contains the revised English translation of prayers and responses at Mass from the original Latin text. We in the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, as with our brothers and sisters across the nation, have been preparing for this change for some time now. The time is now upon us to embrace this change and its integration into our celebration of the Eucharist.

Nov. 27, 2011, in addition to being an important date to our new liturgical year, also marks for us an important turn in our community. Today is the last day of validity for locally issued umbrella permits for nonresidents in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Prompted by federal legislation that took effect in 2009, this development brought forth new immigration requirements for non-U.S. citizens in our communities on Rota, Saipan, and Tinian, and any quest for their continued stay in the islands. The population it impacts is significant enough to impose many changes in our parishes, villages, and the Commonwealth at large. Completing the immigration shift from local to federal immigration standards has certainly brought much attention, discussion, and action. There are those that have downsized, reduced staff, or have discontinued services altogether. Individuals who employed nonresident workers in their homes and farms are also adjusting to the new rules. The diocese itself has had to review the nonresident status of those assisting with its mission, including members of the clergy and the religious. The plight of those who hold nonresident status has in and of itself been a contentious issue. These individuals were faced with concerns like whether or not they had secured employers, whether or not they qualified for approved status, whether or not they had an option to stay or return to their points of origins, whether or not their dependents qualified them for special consideration, and many other uncertainties. As Nov. 27 approached, there were those who left the islands to return home or elsewhere to seek gainful employment, those who remained after securing approved status, and those who did not secure approved status but remained hopeful for a perceived outcome. In any event, Nov. 27 is now here and changes are imminent.

Through this pastoral letter, I, together with the clergy of the Dio-

By FR. RYAN P. JIMENEZ

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Fr. Ryan P. Jimenez is the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa.



cese of Chalan Kanoa, is one in prayer with the many nonresidents and residents alike who are affected with this reality. St. Paul, in his letter to the Corinthians, says that we are all members of the one body of Christ and when one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it. (1 Corinthians 12:26).

Our parishes throughout the diocese are comprised of parishioners from various ethnic backgrounds. We are a church of diverse backgrounds, cultures, and traditions. We speak different languages, maintain different customs, and observe different family practices. These are all reflections of the richness of God's inmost being, one God in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This unity in diversity as reflected in the Trinitarian God is a model for all the faithful.

With this, I would like to point out pertinent social teachings of the Catholic Church as our guide in dealing with current events such as immigration. The United States of Conference of Catholic Bishops, through its pastoral letter *Strangers No Longer*, emphasized five guiding principles of Catholic social teaching on immigration:

1. All people have a right to find opportunity in their homeland;
2. All people have a right to migrate in order to support themselves and their families;
3. Nations have the right to control their borders;
4. Refugees and asylum seekers should be protected by the international community; and
5. All immigrants possess inherent human dignity, which should be respected in all cases.

While the five points above deserve a full explanation, I only wish to emphasize the last point in upholding the dignity of the human person. At the core of this basic teaching is a biblical testimony that every person is created in the image and likeness of God. "God created man in His image; in the divine image He created him; male and female He created them." (Genesis 1:27). With this as our basis for relating with one another, there should be no room for hatred with our fellow human being. In recognizing the rights of every individual and in upholding the laws, we should try our best to instill basic respect with one another.

See ADVENT on Next Page



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com); or through our website at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

# Your crystal ball

**By RIK VILLEGAS**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Rik coaches businesses through their most challenging transition points to develop consistently profitable businesses that operate without them. He can be contacted at [RikVillegas@gmail.com](mailto:RikVillegas@gmail.com), and you can comment on this article at <http://rikv.blogspot.com>.*



**Y**ou've probably seen a movie where someone visits a Gypsy woman to have their future foretold. She gazes intently into a large crystal ball and then begins to predict impending doom or untold riches with the words, "I see your future, and..."

What can you do if you want to know your future, and particularly the future of your company? Well, you could start searching on eBay for a used crystal ball, or you can foretell your own future by developing a vision statement that puts you in control of your destiny—instead of relying on the stars, Karma, or luck.

I'm not talking about a vision statement that is typically short and nondescript, and would make a better slogan than a detailed picture of your future. I'm talking about a detailed word picture that Cameron Herold, in his book, *Double Double: How to Double Your Revenue and Profits in 3 Years or Less*, calls a "painted picture." This type of vision specifically describes what your business and life will look and be like in the next three years. He uses this timeline because it is short enough to create a strategic plan that is realistic and achievable, but long enough to implement innovative solutions and see their results with the three years.

The vision you create should be compelling and visual so it creates "buy-in" for your entire staff, and allows them to see the same vision that is in your mind. Many vision statements are too simple and vague, and therefore fall short of their mark to create a compelling word picture.

When it's complete, you will have a detailed document that is between three to four pages. The contents of your painted picture should be a multi-sensory description of what you would see, hear, and feel as you walked around your workplace in the future. It should say what the media, community, and your customers will say about you. You'll want to state how much your company earns in sales and profits, and you could include the type of employees who work for you and the core values you've instilled, that allow them to make good decisions.

You can include as many more categories as you need or want.

**ADVENT**

From Page 10

This call for respect, practice of charity, and solidarity is grounded in Sacred Scriptures. From God's command to the Israelites to "treat the alien who resides with you no differently than the native born among you; have the same love for him as yourself; for you too were once aliens in the land of Egypt" (Leviticus 19:34), to Christ's pronouncement that His followers will be judged by how well they welcome the stranger (Matthew 25:35), to St. Paul's claim that, "You are no longer stranger and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens and members of the household of God" (Ephesians 2:19), we likewise should embrace members of our community with love and respect. After all, when people of different origins are welcomed, God is revealed: "I was a stranger and you welcome me." (Matthew 25:35).

In his encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*, His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI pointed out that "the migrant is the human person who possesses fundamental, inalienable right that must be respected by everyone and every circumstance." Moreover, as one bishop suggests, "We must see everyone not only as a neighbor but also to see everyone as Jesus."

As we live in this constantly changing society, we must remind ourselves that truly there is nothing permanent in this world. There is only one thing permanent and constant—that is, the unconditional love of God. Let us all continue to put our faith, hope, and trust in God. As the Psalmist in our reading today direct us, "Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved." (Psalm 80:4). During this season of Advent, with renewed hope, let our Christian faith rest ultimately in the "One who migrated from heaven to earth, and through His death and resurrection, passed over from death to life."

I am with you during this challenging journey of faith and, with my prayers, I remain respectfully yours in Christ.

Some categories could include customer service, marketing, technology, and your ideal work-life balance. Ultimately, your future business should provide you the resources and time to create your ideal lifestyle.

An important distinction is to focus on what you want and where you're going, rather than how you plan to get there. That will happen when you dig into the details to create a strategic plan. Your painted picture should be a big picture look at your business from 30,000 feet, and the end results you'll realize toward the end of your journey.

Herold's own painted picture includes a short, but descriptive paragraph written in 16 different categories of his business and personal life. You can read a copy of it on his website at [www.backpocketcoo.com](http://www.backpocketcoo.com). He encourages people to share their vision with employees, suppliers, bankers, and even customers. The reason for this is it gets your stakeholders to align with your vision and goals so that they understand their role in the grand scheme of things and how they will benefit. Some of them may even play a critical role in its realization.

## Letter to the Editor

### Here's an idea

**I**n the past several years, and as an individual running for state Legislature, I came across a plan that helped South Carolina and Mississippi increase revenue and jobs. These plans took three years to implement, but the results were outstanding nonetheless. I didn't realize the impact on society as a whole until I had to write a presentation on how to be successful in life. I was gobsmacked at the end of my report and how 1 + 1 makes 2. How if everyone works together the entire community will prosper.

First, everyone must be educated and become skilled. When everyone has opportunity, everyone prospers. Second, employers must pay fair wages to sustain a decent life for their employees and let them know they can be promoted and have regular pay raises. Lastly, everyone should understand that there is enough wealth, opportunity and no matter the economic situation or education level of the individual, we all can be successful and rich. No matter how we look at it, the world will not run out of money or opportunity. There is enough for everyone.

Being that, with the numerous factory and office buildings that are vacant on the CNMI it gives the CNMI a great advantage to help its citizenry. Using what I stated earlier, the CNMI government, if they use this plan, will create more than 15,000 high paying jobs within the next three years with aggressive marketing and exclusive tax breaks for companies that come to the CNMI.

First, give a tax break for any company \$3,000 or more for every U.S. citizen that is hired at more than \$10 per hour and is employed full time with benefits, receivable after one year of continuous service. Second, a \$2,000 tax credit for every employee that is given training that will help them obtain a certain job. Third, 100 percent tax credit for any company that moves to the CNMI and sets up shop (all moving and construction related expenses to relocate and

You could even take it to another level by having an artist or graphic designer make it more engaging with visual imagery. Or, you could create a PowerPoint slideshow with photos and graphics to illustrate your word picture with real pictures.

Review it periodically, both individually and with your employees. Herold suggests reviewing the vision at a quarterly retreat where each person circles the words that mean the most to them before brainstorming ways to make it happen. One executive reads a section of the painted picture at the start of every meeting where more than two people are in attendance. Six months before the three-year period ends, you should start crafting your next painted picture.

If you don't have a vision statement, or one of those vague one-to-three sentence statements that doesn't inspire anyone, you may want to consider putting together your own painted picture. When it's complete, you could hold a company event, and if you have a dramatic flair, you could have someone, dressed as a Gypsy, gaze intently into a large crystal ball as she begins reciting your vision with the words, "I see your future, and..."

start a business) and hires more than 25 employees with abovementioned requirements. Also:

- 100 percent tax credit to the companies that provide education for their employees (all monies that are paid for the education of employees will be written off as a tax credit.)
- 100 percent tax credit for starting up a daycare for employees.
- 100 percent tax credit for repairing the buildings by Garapan Elementary School that can be used for CNMI government offices.
- 100 percent tax credits for companies that help fix the roads, CUC problems, coral reefs, sewage runoff, road repair and donations to PSS).

The purpose behind this is two-fold. First, instead of worrying about SNAP money it concentrates on two things: jobs and education. Second, it forces the companies to be socially responsible. They need to pay decent wages (\$5.05 an hour is out the door) and educate unskilled workers at a fair wage. Along with being socially responsible, the communities get better roads, more school donations, better beaches, and no red flags at beaches. It's a win-win situation.

The employers who take advantage of the CW and local workers at \$5.05 an hour is over. These employers will soon learn they need to start paying decent wages that will give the God-fearing people of the CNMI some self-worth. Many people will soon refuse to work for so little. I will be glad to discuss this with any member of the Legislature, governor or lieutenant governor if they are willing to listen for an hour or two to this plan and will gladly help draft a proposal and find ways to have businesses come to the CNMI.

**Keith Brooks**  
Dandan, Saipan

## DROIDS

From Page 10

At the same time, the ability of computers to make humans more productive is growing exponentially. Jeffrey Katzenberg, chief executive of DreamWorks Animation, said at the conference that an expert animator can create only about 3 seconds' worth of a movie in a week because of the many hours spent waiting for computers to render the images in 3D. With the next generation of computers, he said, those workers will be able to animate and apply effects in real time, creating scenes 50 to 70 times as fast.

That's astounding, and it's great for DreamWorks and its animators, who can turn ideas into movies faster. The challenge for the United States—and every other country—is helping more people to take advantage of that leap in power rather than being left behind by it. The same could be said of any technology-fueled change in society, including the advent of commercial farming and the industrial revolution. What's different this time, Brynjolfsson and McAfee say, is that the changes brought about by the new technology are happening much, much faster.

The advances in productivity have generated a huge amount of wealth in the U.S. over the last three decades, but those gains have been reaped by those at the top of the income ladder. The most-educated workers' income has risen, particularly since the invention of the World Wide Web, while the wages of unskilled American workers have been trending down for more than three decades,

Brynjolfsson and McAfee say. Meanwhile, as workers are replaced by technology, corporations are holding on to a greater share of the earnings.

On the bright side, the Internet and information technology are creating tremendous opportunities for entrepreneurs and for companies that adapt. So many more tools are freely available, barriers to entry are dramatically lower and the cost of marketing and distributing products globally is vanishing.

In fact, Brynjolfsson contends, the U.S. economy should be growing faster. Part of the reason the unemployment rate has stayed so high is that companies can't find employees equipped to help them expand their operations.

Brynjolfsson and McAfee offer a long list of suggested responses, but the one that matters most in the long term is to produce workers with the right set of skills. That starts with a more effective educational system for all ages, including adult retraining programs. Yet instead of investing in that system, cash-strapped states and cities are cramming more kids into classrooms and raising the cost of higher education.






If the authors are right, there's no short-term fix to the fundamental problem U.S. workers face. But as lawmakers struggle to breathe life into the moribund economy and bring down budget deficits, they need to recognize that growth over the long term depends on how well the country harnesses the technology-fueled advances in productivity. That means equipping far more Americans with skills relevant to the new era. Otherwise, the stagnating wages and employment of the past decade will become the painful new normal.



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲86 ▼79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲87 ▼76
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲87 ▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼78
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼75
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼75
Majuro	Showers	▲84 ▼79

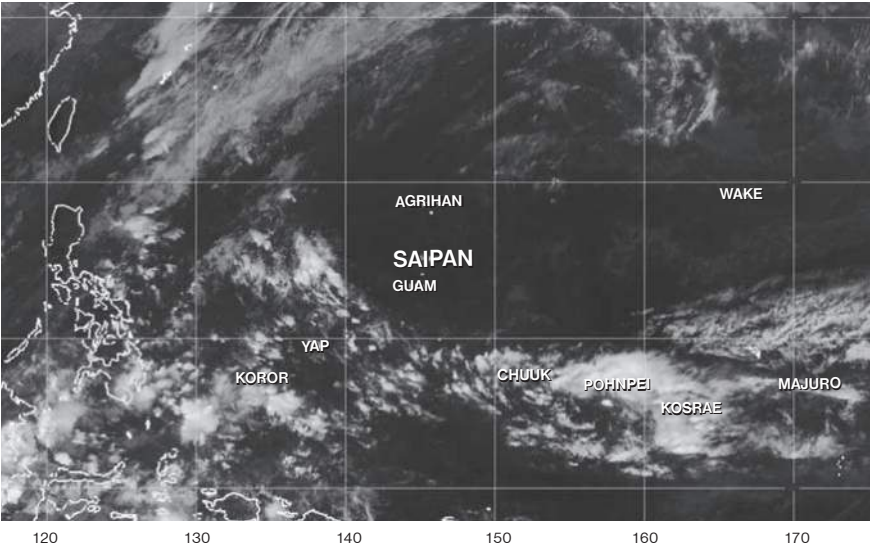
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲71 ▼60
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	▲37 ▼23
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲67 ▼58
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲82 ▼73
London	Showers	▲45 ▼39
Los Angeles	Windy	▲66 ▼44
Manila	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼75
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲68 ▼50
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲76 ▼66
New York	Sunny	▲52 ▼34
Osaka	Showers	▲54 ▼48
Paris	Rain	▲48 ▼38
Pusan	Showers	▲57 ▼45
Rome	Showers	▲64 ▼51
Salem	Sunny	▲50 ▼34
San Francisco	Windy	▲67 ▼48
Seoul	Cloudy	▲48 ▼34
Tokyo	Showers	▲50 ▼45
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲53 ▼35

### Tides

Saipan Harbor			
5:57 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
1:11 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
7:20 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
11:38 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2011**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front stretches southwestward from 25N140E to beyond 20N130E. Cloudiness and patchy rain are along and up to 400 miles northwest of the front. A surface trough west of the Marianas runs from 12N135E to 19N135E with scattered showers and a few thunderstorms between 13N and 17N from 132E to 140E. A trade-wind disturbance near Palau is causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between 3N and 7N from 130E to 138E. Another trade-wind disturbance passing over Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms within 150 miles of a line from 9N151E to 8N157E to 2N166E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers across the Marshall Islands between 2N and 10N to the east of 166E. A shear line meanders westward from 17N180 to 15N160E with scattered light showers along and up to 150 miles north of this boundary. A second shear line stretches westward from 22N180 to 23N155E with patchy cloudiness and light showers along and up to 200 miles northwest of this feature.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:27 AM	5:45 PM
Friday	6:27 AM	5:45 PM
Saturday	6:28 AM	5:45 PM
Sunday	6:28 AM	5:45 PM
Monday	6:29 AM	5:46 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:24 AM	11:27 PM
Friday	12:03 PM	
Saturday	12:40 PM	12:16 AM
Sunday	1:16 PM	1:03 AM
Monday	1:53 PM	1:50 AM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

#### PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS  
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS  
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS  
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI  
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE  
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

#### CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

#### REQUIREMENTS

##### For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

##### For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan  
To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 17, 2011

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
<b>GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)</b> C05062 2:10am 2:40am 1, 5	<b>ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)</b> C05064 5:15am 5:45am 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)</b> C05064 4:15am 4:50am 1, 5	<b>ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)</b> C05062 3:10am 3:45am 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)</b> C05070 4:15am 5:45am 1, 5 via ROP C05070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 C05068 8:25am 9:15am Daily C05074 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C05076 3:10pm 4:00pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C05078 6:50pm 7:40pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C05078 7:00pm 7:50pm 3, 6 C05072 9:55pm 10:45pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C05072 10:05pm 10:55pm 3, 6	<b>GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN</b> C05062 2:10am 3:45am 1, 5 via ROP C05069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 C05071 7:00am 7:50am Daily C05073 10:05am 10:55am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C05075 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C05077 5:30pm 6:20pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C05077 5:40pm 6:30pm 3, 6 C05079 8:35pm 9:25pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C05079 8:45pm 9:35pm 3, 6
<b>SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)</b> DL287 6:00am 8:35am Daily DL297 4:35pm 7:20pm Daily	<b>NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN</b> DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL288 8:40pm 1:15am+1 Daily
<b>SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)</b> OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily	<b>SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN</b> OZ603 9:00am 2:20pm Daily OZ605 7:40pm 1:00am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
<b>SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)</b> OZ608 3:35am 7:05am 4, 7	<b>BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN</b> OZ607 9:00pm 2:20am+1 3, 6
<b>SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)</b> 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	<b>GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN</b> 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
<b>SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)</b> 3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7	<b>SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN</b> 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
<b>SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)</b> OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN  C05070/191 4:35am 9:45am 3, 6 via GUM DL287/173 6:00am 10:25pm Daily via NRT C05068/183 8:25am 9:25pm 2, 5 via GUM C05068/183 8:25am 9:40pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM  C05076/183 3:10pm 9:25pm 2, 5 via GUM C05076/183 3:10pm 9:40pm 1, 4, 7 via GUM  C05076/193 3:10pm 11:00pm 2, 5 via GUM-Palau  C05072/PR111 9:55pm 7:50am 1, 5 via GUM C05072/PR111 10:05pm 7:50am 3, 6 via GUM	<b>MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN</b> OZ704/603 12:10am 2:20pm Daily via ICN DL172/288 8:00am 1:15am+1 Daily via NRT C0190/5077 10:55am 6:30pm 3, 6 via GUM C0190/5079 10:55am 9:35pm 3, 6 via GUM OZ702/605 12:45pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:45pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN  PR110/C05071 10:15pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM  C0192/5071 10:25pm 7:50am+1 2, 5 via GUM-Palau  C0184/5071 11:10pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM  C0184/5071 11:59pm 7:50am+1 2, 5 via GUM
<b>SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)</b> OZ606/721 2:10am 12:00pm 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:40am 12:00pm 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN  C05076/179 3:05pm 10:25pm 1, 5 via GUM OZ604/723 3:20pm 10:30pm Daily via ICN	<b>HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN</b> OZ724/603 12:30am 2:20pm Daily via ICN OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:15pm 1:30am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN  C0180/5071 11:15pm 7:50am+1 1, 5 via GUM
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana	
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)	

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>							
FRE 100	17:50	18:20	Daily				
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				<b>Tinian-Saipan</b>			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



# Business

## American Airlines files for bankruptcy protection

**DALLAS** (AP)—The parent company of American Airlines filed for bankruptcy protection Tuesday, seeking relief from crushing debt caused by high fuel prices and expensive labor contracts that its competitors shed years ago.

The company also replaced its CEO, and the incoming leader said American would probably cut its flight schedule “modestly” while it reorganizes. The new CEO, Thomas W. Horton, did not give specifics.

For most travelers, though, flights will operate normally and the airline will honor tickets and take reservations. American said its frequent-flyer program would be unaffected.

AMR Corp., which owns American, was one of the last major U.S. airline companies that had avoided bankruptcy. Rivals United and Delta used bankruptcy to shed costly labor contracts, reduce debt, and start making money again. They also grew through mergers.

American — the nation’s third-largest airline and proud of an 80-year history that reaches back to the dawn of passenger travel—was stuck with higher costs that meant it lost money when matching competitors’ lower fares.

In announcing the bankruptcy filing, AMR said that Gerard Arpey, 53, a veteran of the company for almost three decades and CEO

since 2003, had retired and was replaced by Horton, 50, the company president.

Horton said the board of directors unanimously decided on Monday night to file for bankruptcy. In a filing with federal bankruptcy court in New York, AMR said it had \$29.6 billion in debt and \$24.7 billion in assets.

In hearing in a packed bankruptcy courtroom on Tuesday in New York, a judge granted the airline permission to pay for fuel, labor, and other critical expenses to keep it flying. The hearing was an indication of how American will now need to run all of its financial decisions

past a bankruptcy judge and, ultimately, creditors.

With reductions to the flight schedule, Horton said there would probably be corresponding job cuts. American has about 78,000 employees and serves 240,000 passengers per day.

AMR’s move could also trigger more consolidation in the airline industry. Some analysts believe American is likely to merge with US Airways to move closer to United Continental Holdings Inc. and Delta Air Lines Inc. in size. Such a merger would leave five large U.S. airlines compared with nine in 2008.



American Airlines planes sit at a gate at Washington’s Ronald Reagan National Airport, Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2011. AP

### Grounded

AMR Corporation, the parent company of American Airlines and American Eagle, has filed for bankruptcy protection, seeking to cut labor costs and debt.



#### At a glance

**Headquarters** Dallas-Fort Worth

**CEO** Gerard Arpey (retiring), Thomas Horton (named successor)

**Employees** About 78,000

**Fleet** (as of Dec. 31, 2010)  
• 620 aircraft, American Airlines  
• 294 aircraft, American Eagle

**Passengers** About 240,000 daily

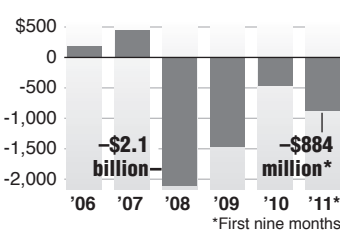
**Service** Serves about 250 destinations in about 50 countries in the Americas, Europe and Asia; extends reach through code-sharing and as part of oneWorld alliance with British Airways, others

**Hubs** New York, Los Angeles, Dallas-Fort Worth, Chicago, Miami

**History** Founded in 1930 from the combining of more than 80 small carriers

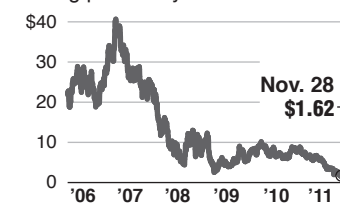
#### Financials

Annual profit or loss, in millions



#### Share price

Closing price daily



Source: AMR Corporation, Hoovers, Yahoo! Finance, Reuters  
Graphic: Pat Carr

© 2011 MCT

## Greece gets \$10.7 billion but rescue plan stalls

**BRUSSELS** (AP)—Eurozone ministers sent Greece an euro8 billion (\$10.7 billion) Christmas rescue package Tuesday to stem an immediate cash crisis yet failed to resolve fears that the common euro currency might be doomed.

Stock markets around the world rose earlier in the day, hoping that intense pressure from the bond markets would finally force the 17-nation eurozone into quicker and more robust action.

But even as Italy’s borrowing costs skyrocketed to a euro-era record, the 17 finance ministers only found a veneer of credibility to coat the euro’s rescue fund with more leverage. They failed to increase the bailout fund to match earlier predictions and kicked other major financial issues—like a closer fiscal

union—over to their bosses, the EU leaders meeting next week in Brussels.

The ministers did agree to use the fund to offer financial protection of 20 to 30 percent to investors who bought new bonds of troubled eurozone nations, an effort to help those countries get back to borrowing on global markets again.

“We made important progress on a number of fronts,” Jean-Claude Juncker, the eurozone chief, insisted late Tuesday. “This shows our complete determination to do whatever it takes to safeguard the financial stability of the euro.”

The EU’s monetary chief Olli Rehn said eurozone nations needed to work on many financial issues at once to ease global pressure on their currency.

“There is no one single silver

bullet that will get us out of this crisis,” Rehn told reporters.

But the question of how to beef up the leverage capacity of European Financial Stability Facility from its current euro440 billion (\$587 billion) to a hoped-for euro1 trillion (\$1.3 trillion) was not resolved. The fund is supposed to be a firewall that protects European nations from the financial chaos of their neighbors.

Fund chief Klaus Regling remained vague on how beefed up it was after Tuesday’s meeting in Brussels, but assured reporters it was more than big enough to deal with Europe’s immediate financial debt problems.

“To be clear, we do not expect investors to commit large amounts of money during the next few days or weeks,” Regling said. “Leverage is a process over time.”

## Facebook makes privacy pledge in FTC settlement

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—Government regulators are sharing some alarming information about Facebook: They believe the online social network has often misled its more than 800 million users about the sanctity of their personal information.

The unflattering portrait of Facebook’s privacy practices emerged Tuesday in a Federal Trade Commission complaint alleging that Facebook exposed details about users’ lives without getting legally required consent. In some cases, the FTC charged, Facebook allowed potentially sensitive details to be passed along to advertisers and software developers prowling for customers.

To avoid further legal wrangling, Facebook agreed to submit to government audits of its privacy practices every other year for the next two decades. The company committed to getting explicit approval from its users—a process known as “opting in”—before changing their privacy controls.

The FTC’s truce with Facebook, along with settlements this year with Google and Twitter, is helping to establish

more ground rules for online privacy expectations even as Internet companies regularly vacuum up insights about their audiences in an effort to sell more advertising.

Although Facebook didn’t acknowledge any wrongdoing in the legal papers it signed with the FTC, Facebook co-founder and CEO Mark Zuckerberg was more contrite in a blog post Tuesday.

“I’m the first to admit that we’ve made a bunch of mistakes,” Zuckerberg wrote. “In particular, I think that a small number of high-profile mistakes ... have often overshadowed much of the good work we’ve done.”

Facebook has overcome its missteps in the past to emerge as the world’s largest social network and one of the Internet’s most influential companies since Zuckerberg created the website in his Harvard University dorm room in 2004.

No website has been as successful as Facebook at getting people to voluntarily share intimate details about themselves. Zuckerberg has emerged as the Internet’s chief evangelist for sharing, partly because he

believes it can help make the world a better place by making it easier for people to stay connected with the things and people that they care about.

Facebook also is trying to make money by mining the personal information that it collects to help customize ads and aim the messages at people most likely to buy the products and services being promoted. That strategy has been working well as Facebook prepares to sell its stock in an initial public offering that’s expected next year.

The company’s revenue this year is expected to approach \$4.3 billion, according to research firm eMarketer, up from \$777 million in 2009. The rapid growth is expected to make Facebook the biggest Internet IPO in history, topping Google’s stock market debut in 2004.

The FTC’s 19-page complaint casts a glaring spotlight on how Facebook has approached its users’ rights to privacy at a time that it is facing tougher competition from Internet search leader Google Inc., which has attracted more than 40 million users to a social service called Plus just five months after its debut.

## BankGuam Holding Company declares Q4 dividends

BankGuam Holding Company announced yesterday that its board of directors has declared a \$0.125 per share quarterly cash dividend at the board’s regular meeting held on Nov.

28, 2011. The dividend will be paid on Dec. 30, 2011, to shareholders of record on Dec. 15, 2011.

“The continuing profitability of the bank has allowed us to

pay dividends this quarter to our shareholders, and represent a favorable return on their investment,” explained president and board chair Lourdes (Lou) A. Leon Guerrero. **(BOG)**

### STOCK PORTFOLIO



### LEADING INDICATORS

#### DOW

11,555.63  
+32.62  
+0.28%

#### S&P

1,195.19  
+2.64  
+0.22%

#### NASDAQ

2,515.51  
-11.83  
-0.47%

### EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	0.9975
British Pound	0.6409
Canadian Dollar	1.0321
Chinese Yuan	6.3678
Euro	0.7498

Hong Kong Dollar	7.7891
Indian Rupee	52.16
Indonesian Rupiah	9180
Japanese Yen	77.9045
Malaysian Ringgit	3.169
New Zealand Dollar	1.31

Philippine Peso	43.5525
Singapore Dollar	1.2933
South Korean Won	1138.85
Swiss Franc	0.9198
Taiwan Dollar	30.328
Thailand Baht	31.175



# Nation

## NJ dad arrested in death of girl tossed in creek

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—A New Jersey man suspected of killing his 2-year-old daughter by tossing her into a creek while she was still strapped in her car seat has been captured in California.

The U.S. Marshals Service in San Diego confirmed that 27-year-old Arthur Morgan III was arrested Tuesday afternoon.

Steve Jurman, the office's supervising deputy, said Morgan was captured at a home in San Diego around 4:30 p.m. PST.

Jurman said his office got a tip from New Jersey authorities that Morgan might be at the home, and surveillance was conducted there for most of the day. Morgan was then spotted on the home's back porch and, after a brief period where it appeared he might try to flee, Morgan was captured without incident.

He was taken to the San Diego County jail, where he will remain pending extradition proceedings. He could not be immediately reached for comment.



This image provided by the U.S. Marshals shows Arthur Morgan III, 27, center, on floor, after he was arrested Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2011 in San Diego.

Monmouth County, N.J., prosecutor Peter E. Warshaw Jr. issued a statement Tuesday night confirming the arrest and

thanking the U.S. Marshals Service and other law enforcement authorities that were involved in the search for Morgan, who also faces charges of child endangerment and interfering with custody in neighboring Ocean County.

Morgan was the subject of a nationwide manhunt and had been featured on the website of "America's Most Wanted."

He is charged with the murder of Tierra Morgan-Glover on Nov. 21. Her body was found partially submerged in a creek near a roadway overpass in Shark River Park in Wall Township, N.J., about 20 miles north of her Lakehurst home. Her cause of death was listed as "homicidal violence, including submersion in water."

The FBI and the U.S. Marshals office were among several agencies searching for Tierra's father, who was last seen on a train station platform in Asbury Park, N.J., not far from the park where his daughter's body would later be discovered.

The girl's mother, Imani Benton, called police after Morgan failed to return the child from a court-ordered visit. She learned of his arrest when she arrived at a friend's home on Tuesday night and heard people cheering.

Everybody was outside yelling and screaming—they were like, 'They got him. They got him,' Benton told the Asbury Park Press of Neptune. "I couldn't get out of the car. I just had to sit and let the tears fall for a minute."

## Importance of Fla. primary brings Romney to state

**TAMPA, Fla. (AP)**—If there's any Republican presidential candidate who can afford to spend precious time and money focusing on winning in Florida, it's the one who campaigned in the state Tuesday.

Florida is the only early primary state Mitt Romney plans to visit this week, little more than a month before voters start weighing in on the GOP nominating fight.

Depending on how he performs in earlier contests in Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina—all three are still uncertain—Florida represents either a chance for Romney to either seal the nomination or an opportunity to revive what likely would become, if he's lost three times, a struggling campaign.

Romney spent all day in Flor-

ida, attending several fundraisers and holding public events in Miami and Tampa.

Unlike his rivals, Romney has the resources to compete aggressively here. He had nearly \$15 million at the end of October and has spent little of it—a war chest that would allow him to buy expensive TV ads across Florida's 10 media markets. He has national name recognition from his 2008 bid, an asset his team believes will give him a significant advantage over lesser-known rivals in a large state where retail politicking alone doesn't cut it. And he's kept in good touch with the support and fundraising network he built last time around, an effort that's shown through as he's picked up endorsements from many of the state's top Republicans, including Sen. Mel Martinez and former

Sen. Connie Mack.

All that would also help him in the general election against President Barack Obama, where Florida is a key battleground.

"They don't want to see me as the nominee, that's for sure," Romney told reporters Tuesday. Democrats started running paid TV ads against him on Monday. "It shows that they're awfully afraid of facing me in the general election. They want to throw the primary process to anybody but me, but bring it on. We're ready for them."

But Romney's team also recognizes that losing Florida could doom his chances of winning the nomination—and Romney's efforts here show that. He's stayed on safe ground on Social Security, important to the state's significant elderly population, while

hammering rival Rick Perry for calling the program a "Ponzi scheme." He's also reached out to the Cuban American community, a historically Republican constituency that plays a significant role in state politics. On Tuesday, former Reps. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and Mario Diaz-Balart and his brother, former Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart, all backed him at an event in Miami. Those three endorsed Sen. John McCain in 2008.

### Who's on first?

Tentative presidential primary and caucus schedule as of Nov. 22, 2011. \*Caucus

January		28	
3	Iowa*	28	S.C. (Dem.)
10	N.H.	31	Fla.
21	S.C. (GOP)		
	Nev.* (Dem.)		

January 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February						
4	Maine* (GOP), Nev.* (GOP)					
7	Mo., Minn.* (GOP)					
28	Ariz., Mich.					

February 2012						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

© 2011 MCT  
Source: Federal Election Commission

## Conn. money managers: No secret lottery winner



In this photo provided by the Connecticut Lottery in Greenwich, Conn., wealth managers Tim Davidson, second left, Greg Skidmore, center, and Brandon Lacoff, second right, pose Monday, Nov. 28, 2011 with a ceremonial check after the men claimed a \$254.2 million Powerball jackpot won on Nov. 2, in Rocky Hill, Conn.

### NEW HAVEN, Conn.

(AP)—Three money managers awarded a \$254 million Powerball jackpot said Tuesday there's no fourth participant despite a claim they're covering for a winner who wants to stay anonymous.

Greg Skidmore, Brandon Lacoff and Tim Davidson, who work at an asset management firm in Greenwich, one of the most affluent towns in America, came forward as the lottery winners Monday. Their lawyer said they formed a trust to manage the money after Davidson bought the \$1 winning ticket at a Stamford gas station.

But Thomas Gladstone, who identified himself as the landlord for the men's company, said he was surprised to learn Lacoff was among the winners because he made no mention of it when he saw him Friday. So Gladstone called Lacoff on Monday night.

"He said, 'No, I didn't win the lottery. We're representing the guy who did,'" Gladstone said. "He said he represents the guy who's staying

anonymous."

Asked who the real winner is, Gladstone said, "They're protecting him. That's the whole purpose of putting this in this trust."

He said the real winner, a client of the men's firm, wants anonymity because people "get harassed and hounded when they win the lottery."

His claim was first reported by the Daily Mail newspaper of Britain.

A statement from the men's Putnam Avenue Family Trust said "there has been much speculation and quite a bit of misinformation over the last 24 hours." It said the trust was established to manage the winnings to help those who can benefit from the money.

"And to be clear, there are a total of three trustees and there is no anonymous fourth participant," the statement said.

The trust promised to distribute \$1 million in the next 10 days to organizations in the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut area that help veterans.

## Cain tells aides he is reassessing his campaign

**ATLANTA (AP)**—Herman Cain told aides Tuesday he is assessing whether the latest allegations of inappropriate sexual behavior against him "create too much of a cloud" for his Republican presidential candidacy to go forward.

Acknowledging the "firestorm" arising from an accusation of infidelity, Cain only committed to keeping his campaign schedule for the next several days, in a conference call with his senior staff.

"If a decision is made, different than to plow ahead, you all will be the first to know," he said, according to a transcript of the call made by the National Review, which listened to the conversation.

It was the first time doubts

about Cain's continued candidacy had surfaced from the candidate himself. As recently as Tuesday morning, a campaign spokesman had stated unequivocally that Cain would not quit.

Cain denied anew that he had an extramarital affair with a Georgia woman who went public a day earlier with allegations they had been intimate for 13 years.

"It was just a friendship relationship," he said on the call, according to the transcript. "That being said, obviously, this is a cause for reassessment."

He went on: "With this latest one, we have to do an assessment as to whether or not this is going to create

too much of a cloud, in some people's minds, as to whether or not they would be able to support us going forth."

Saying the episode had taken an emotional toll on him and his family, Cain told the aides that people will have to decide whether they believe him or the accuser. "That's why we're going to give it time, to see what type of response we get from our supporters."

Cain has denied the affair as well as several other accusations of inappropriate sexual behavior that have dogged his candidacy over the past month. He had been publicly resolute about pressing ahead even as his standing in public opinion polls and his fundraising started to slide.



# Asia

## Pakistan steps up anti-US rhetoric after attack

**ISLAMABAD (AP)**—Pakistan withdrew from an international conference on stabilizing Afghanistan to protest the deadly attack by American forces on its troops, widening a fresh rupture in ties with a nominal ally that is endangering the U.S. plan for gradually ending the war.

In an unusually hostile comment, a top Pakistani army general said Tuesday that the deaths of 24 Pakistani soldiers were the result of a “deliberate act of aggression.” He said the military has not decided whether to take part in an American investigation into the weekend encounter along the mountainous Afghan border.

The hard line was aimed partly at pacifying the country’s anti-American public, most of whom detest their leaders’ close association with Washington. The uncompromising stance of the army was also likely designed to press for more concessions from Washington.

Regardless of motive, Pakistan’s retaliatory moves and tough rhetoric lower the chances of greater cooperation in the Afghan war and will make it harder to repair ties with the U.S. once emotions cool.

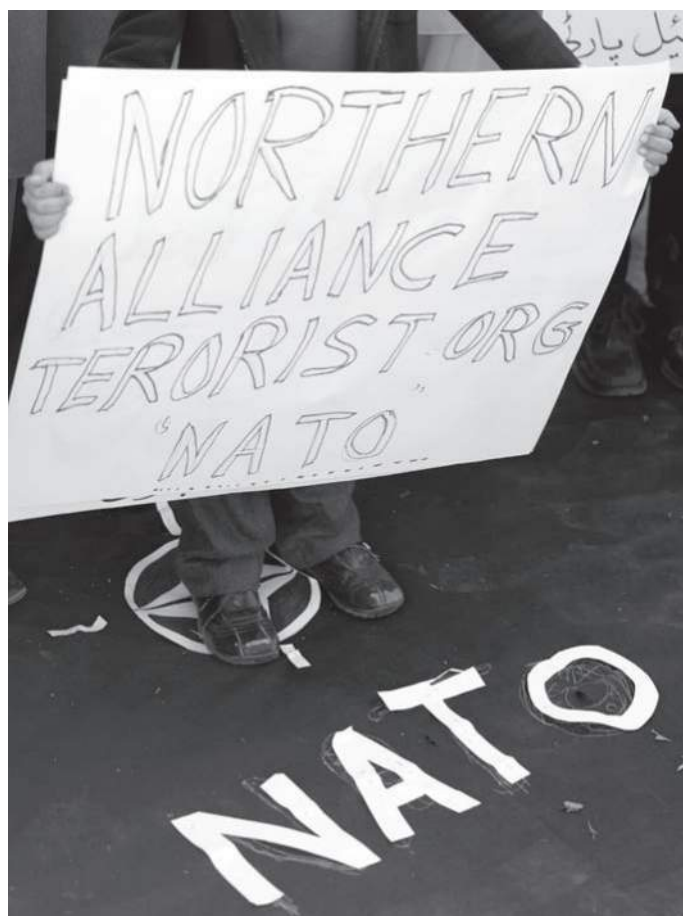
Those ties have been beset by crises for the most of the year, most notably after the U.S. raid on May 2 that killed Osama bin Laden and wounded Pakistani pride. Each time, U.S. officials have worked to get the relationship back on track, knowing that Pakistan’s influence over Afghan Taliban leaders could be key to achieving a negotiated settlement that would allow American combat troops to withdraw from Afghanistan by the end of 2014.

### 40,000 troops to leave Afghanistan by end of 2012

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)**—Drawdown plans announced by the U.S. and more than a dozen other nations will shrink the foreign military footprint in Afghanistan by 40,000 troops at the close of next year, leaving Afghan forces increasingly on the frontlines of the decade-long war.

The United States is pulling out the most—33,000 by the end of 2012. That’s one-third of 101,000 American troops who were in Afghanistan in June, the peak of U.S. military presence in the war, according to figures provided by the Pentagon.

Others in the 49-nation coalition have announced withdrawal plans too, while insisting they are not rushing to leave. Many nations have vowed to keep troops in Afghanistan to continue training the Afghan police and army in the years to come. And many have pledged to keep sending aid to the impoverished country after the international combat mission ends in 2014.



A boy from the Pakistani tribal area of Waziristan, along the Afghanistan border, participates in an anti-NATO protest in Islamabad, Pakistan Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2011.

Pakistan needs American aid and diplomatic support but has shown no willingness to listen to American requests to fight insurgents who use the border as a staging area to carry out attacks inside Afghanistan. Indeed, the army is widely believed to support those militants, hoping they can help ensure that any future regime in Kabul shares Pakistan’s hostility to India.

Differing versions of Saturday’s incident have emerged, but all agree that 24 Pakistan soldiers were killed in attacks on two bases by NATO air-

craft. NATO has described the incident as “tragic and unintended,” and U.S. officials have expressed their sympathies with the families of the dead.

Hours after the attack, Pakistan closed its two crossings on the western border to trucks delivering fuel, vehicles and food to NATO troops in Afghanistan. A NATO official said military operations could run at the current pace for “several months” because the alliance has stockpiles of supplies and alternative routes into the country.

Islamabad also ordered the

Troop cutbacks will be deeper next year, when an estimated 26,000 more will leave. That figure includes 23,000 Americans, 950 Germans, 600 more French, 500 additional Britons, 400 Poles, 290 Belgians, 156 Spaniards, 100 Swedes and 50 Finns.

Gen. James F. Amos, commandant of the Marine Corps, told the AP that the number of Marines in Helmand province in southern Afghanistan will drop “markedly” in 2012, and the role of those who stay will shift from countering the insurgency to training and advising Afghan security forces.

Amos declined to discuss the number of Marines expected to leave in 2012.

There are now about 19,400 Marines in Helmand, and that is scheduled to fall to about 18,500 by the end of this year.

“Am I OK with that? The answer is ‘yes,’” Amos said. “We can’t stay in Afghanistan forever.”

U.S. to vacate within 15 days an air base in southwest Pakistan that housed CIA drones which attack militants along the Afghan border. U.S. officials have said this will not greatly impact the drone program because most of the aircraft are flown from bases in Afghanistan.

The decision to skip the Afghan conference Monday in Bonn, Germany, was made during a Pakistani Cabinet meeting.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said she hoped the government would reconsider.

“They should still understand that the Afghanistan conference is a very important one. It’s a very good opportunity to bring forward the political process,” she said.

Pentagon press secretary George Little also urged Pakistan to come.

“We believe it’s critical that countries in the region and who have interests in Afghanistan attend, and we certainly hope that Pakistan will attend the conference,” Little said in Washington.

More than 90 countries are expected to attend the conference, intended to map out a sustainable future for Afghanistan once international troops withdraw. It was once hoped that the conference would help toward reconciliation with the Taliban, but the assassination in September of former Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani severely undermined efforts to reach out to the insurgency.

Few had high expectations the conference would result in significant progress. But the absence of Pakistan, the most important country in the peace process, will make even minor

achievements more difficult.

Soon after the Pakistani Cabinet meeting ended, two army generals briefed several dozen Pakistani newspaper editors, talk-show hosts and defense analysts on the fallout from the attack.

Maj. Gen. Ashfaq Nadeem, director general of military operations, called the incident a “deliberate act of aggression” and said it was “next to impossible that NATO” did not know it was attacking Pakistani forces, according to people who attended the briefing, which was closed to non-Pakistani media.

In the most detailed account yet of the Pakistani version, he said two or three helicopters attacked the first post, called “Volcano,” without warning. Nadeem did not mention whether those soldiers had opened fire on the advancing choppers. Seeing the attack, troops at the nearby “Boulder” post opened fire with anti-aircraft guns. That base was then attacked, he said.

At the Pentagon, Little declined to respond directly to Nadeem’s remarks, saying: “No one at this point has the complete narrative on what happened and I think it’s important that we wait for the investigation to occur.”

U.S. officials said a joint U.S.-Afghan patrol was attacked by the Taliban on the Afghan side of the border in Kunar province. They say while pursuing the Taliban in the poorly marked border area, the patrol seems to have mistaken one of the Pakistani troop outposts for a militant encampment and called in a NATO gunship and attack helicopters to open fire, starting the engagement.

### China raises poverty line, boosting official poor

**BEIJING (AP)**—Even with its booming economy, China now has more poor people—at least officially.

A sharp upward revision in the official poverty line, announced by the government Tuesday, means that 128 million Chinese in rural areas now qualify as poor, 100 million more than under the previous standard.

The new threshold of about \$1 a day nearly doubles the previous amount. While the revised poverty line is still below the World Bank threshold of \$1.25 a day, the change brings China closer to international norms and better reflects the country’s overall higher standards of living after three decades of buoyant growth.

The old limit, first set in the 1990s and notched up periodically thereafter, focused on the bedrock poor at a time China was still largely rural and im-

poverished. As the country has climbed toward middle income status, experts from the World Bank and Chinese think tanks have urged the government to raise the threshold to capture more poor Chinese.

“The previous poverty line underestimated the number of poor people in rural China,” the official newspaper China Daily quoted Wang Sangui, a rural development expert at Renmin University, as saying. “Only 2.8 percent of the rural population was officially considered poor, which was lower than in many developed countries such as the United States, which has a poverty rate of about 15 percent.”

With the higher threshold, more people qualify for government assistance. Funding for poverty relief is also being raised more than 20 percent this year to 27 billion yuan, or \$4.2 billion, the China Daily reported.

#### ASIAN BRIEFS

##### Clinton seeks greater openness from Myanmar

**BUSAN, South Korea (AP)**—U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Wednesday she is looking forward to her historic trip to isolated Myanmar this week and will suggest specific reforms to the country’s leadership to improve ties with the United States. Clinton travels to Myanmar’s capital later Wednesday on the first visit to the Southeast Asian nation by a secretary of state in more than 50 years. She told reporters at an international aid conference in South Korea before her departure that she was cautiously optimistic about her trip but said Myanmar would have to implement more reforms before the U.S. will reciprocate.

##### PH arrests alleged al-Qaida-linked bomber

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—Officials say police have arrested a suspected al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf bomber involved in the 2002 killing of an American Green Beret and a recent hotel blast that killed three people. Paquito Ochoa, who heads the government’s Anti-terrorism Council, says police and military intelligence officers captured Hussein Ahaddin late Tuesday in his hide-out near the southern city of Zamboanga. Police said Wednesday that Ahaddin belonged to an urban-based squad of the Abu Sayyaf in Zamboanga city. He is believed to be involved in six deadly bombings, including in Monday’s blast that killed three people and wounded 27 others at a budget hotel in the city.

##### Earthquake rocks north PH; no damage

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—An official says an earthquake with a magnitude of 6 shook the capital and parts of the northern Philippines. There are no immediate reports of damage or injuries. Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology chief Renato Solidum says movement in the Manila Trench off the country’s western coast set off the earthquake Wednesday but it occurred deep under the ocean floor and did not cause any destruction. Solidum says the quake was felt in metropolitan Manila and in the nearby provinces of Zambales, Bulacan, Pangasinan and in the mountain resort city of Baguio.



## World

## Egypt's military takes credit for election turnout

**CAIRO (AP)**—Egypt's military rulers have been quick to take credit for a strong turnout in the first elections since Hosni Mubarak's ouster, a vote that appeared to be the country's freest and fairest in living memory.

The military did not field candidates in the parliamentary vote. But winning bragging rights for a smooth, successful and virtually fraud-free election would significantly boost the ruling generals in their bitter struggle with youthful protesters in Cairo's Tahrir Square calling for them to transfer power immediately to a civilian authority.

"When we plan, we execute and, at the end, we succeed," Maj. Gen. Ismail Etman, a member of the ruling military council, said in a television interview. He compared the elections to one of the Egyptian military's proudest moments—when they battled Israeli forces across the Suez Canal in 1973.

"The armed forces pulled off this election like they pulled off the crossing in 1973," he said.

Even before two days of voting began Monday, protesters were accusing the military of trying to cling to power and safeguard its interests under any future government. Now, they warn the ruling council will try to use the success of the election to cement its hold on power.

Already, the ruling council's perceived success seems to have taken the wind out of Tahrir protests, at least temporarily. The square that was the center of the anti-Mubarak uprising had as many vendors as protesters on Tuesday. Several small groups

of older men intensely debating politics was the only sign of political activity.

"I voted yesterday and returned to Tahrir. I found it empty except for the vendors," said Samer Suliman, a political science professor at the American University in Cairo and one of the founders of the Social Dem-

ocratic party.

"I think the military won big from the elections," he added. "The soldiers at the polling stations with their big smiles and politeness are giving the impression to the people that they are carrying the country on their shoulders. No doubt that they are dancing right now."

The generals, who took power after the 18-day uprising that pushed Mubarak out, were clearly hoping their successful shepherding of election would deflate the wave of protests against them that erupted 10 days ago. The protests, which drew more than 100,000 people in Tahrir at their height, galva-

nized growing anger among some who accuse the military of perpetuating the old regime's autocratic rule.

Etman estimated the turnout for the first round of voting at 70 percent and the head of the elections commission said it was "massive" but gave no figures. There will be two more rounds of voting for a parliament in the coming months and a series of run-offs. The process will not be completed until March.

Another member of the ruling council, Maj. Gen. Mukhtar al-Mulla, called the turnout "unprecedented in the history of the Arab world's parliamentary life."

Egypt's state media lavishly praised the military as the guardians of democracy, splashing on their front pages pictures of troops protecting polling centers or soldiers carrying elderly women to the polls.

"The ballots of the freedom parliament under the protection of the army," announced a headline in Cairo's Al-Ahram Al-Masai.

Al-Malla said the turnout was a message of solidarity from Egyptians to their armed forces.

"Our response to that message is: We are with you," he said as a small crowd of supporters gathered around him while touring polling centers in the Mediterranean city of Port

Said, northeast of Cairo. "The army and the people are one hand," they chanted—invoking the mantra of the uprising earlier this year, when Tahrir protesters enthusiastically welcomed the military's takeover of power.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon commended "the enthusiastic participation" of Egyptians in the voting and the calm and orderly manner in which it took place, deputy spokesman Eduardo del Buey said.

But there are other frustrations playing into the hands of the military. Egyptians are increasingly impatient with the persistent protests, the deepening economic troubles and a crime surge. For many, it is the military, rather than the revolutionaries, who are best equipped to deliver the stability and security they long for.

"The Supreme Council of the Armed Forces doesn't really want to be in power but they are the only ones keeping us from chaos," said 24-year-old Kareem Ahmed in the Mediterranean city of Alexandria. "I voted today for the stability of the country. ... Those in Tahrir don't represent me or the revolution and it is high time they just get out of the square."

But the die-hard protesters were not prepared to admit defeat.

## Egyptian elections

For the first time since the end of President Hosni Mubarak's 30-year rule, Egyptians are choosing their representatives to the nation's Parliament. Voting will be carried out in waves, in different months and in different governorates, around the country.

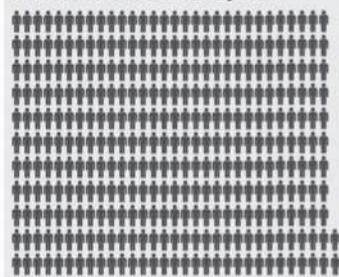
## People's Assembly Lower house

Nine out of Egypt's 27 governorates will vote in each phase

	Election	Runoff	Parliamentary days
Phase 1	Nov. 28-29	Dec. 5-6	• Three-stage election process, each on its own election day • If no candidate gets 50 percent of total vote, runoff will be held
Phase 2	Dec. 14-15	Dec. 21-22	
Phase 3	Jan. 3-4	Jan. 10-11	

## 508 parliamentary seats

## 332 seats Closed list system



- Voters choose list of party, not individual candidate
- Number of votes a list receives determines number of candidates elected from list; candidates at top of list more likely to be elected
- Country divided into 46 districts for party lists

## 166 seats Individual candidate system



- Voters choose any two candidates directly on this portion of ballot
- Country divided into 83 districts for individual candidates

Voters are expected to choose **one list and two individual candidates**

## 10 seats Appointed by president



## Of the 498 parliamentary seats



Source: AP, BBC, Al-Ahram

Worker Must show proof of employment through union and have started job before earning a university degree

Farmer Must live, work in rural areas; agriculture must be main source of livelihood; own no more than 10 acres

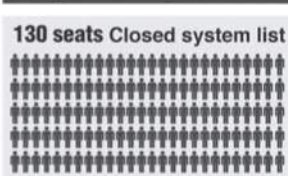
Graphic: Melina Yingling

## Shura Council Upper consultative house

Less powerful, serves as advisory roll

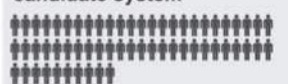
	Election	Runoff
Phase 1	Jan. 29	Feb. 5
Phase 2	Feb. 14	Feb. 21
Phase 3	March 4	March 11

## 270 parliamentary seats



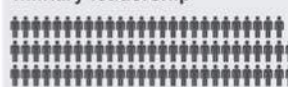
Country divided into 30 districts; average of four candidates from each district

## 60 seats Individual candidate system



Country divided into 30 districts; two candidates from each district

## 80 seats Appointed by president or the current military leadership



© 2011 MCT

## Iranian protesters storm British Embassy in Tehran

**TEHRAN, Iran (AP)**—Hard-line Iranian protesters stormed British diplomatic compounds Tuesday, hauling down the Union Jack, torching an embassy vehicle and pelting buildings with petrol bombs in what began as an apparent state-approved show of anger over the latest Western sanctions to punish Tehran for defiance over its nuclear program.

The hours-long assault on the British Embassy and a residential complex for staff—in chaotic scenes reminiscent of the seizing of the U.S. Embassy in 1979—could push already frayed diplomatic ties toward the breaking point.

Iran's parliament approved a bill Sunday to downgrade relations with Britain, one of America's closest allies with diplomatic envoys in the Islamic Republic.

Calling Tuesday's attack "outrageous and indefensible," British Prime Minister David Cameron said that Iran's failure to defend the embassy and its

staff was a disgrace and would have "serious consequences."

He said all embassy staff had been accounted for and praised Britain's ambassador to Iran for handling a "dangerous situation with calm and professionalism."

Sorting out who to blame may be difficult.

The late-afternoon demonstration outside the British Embassy was organized by pro-government groups at universities and Islamic seminaries, and could not have taken place without official sanction. However, such anti-Western rallies often draw ultraconservative factions such as the basiji, a paramilitary group run by the powerful Revolutionary Guard that is directly controlled by Iran's ruling theocracy.

Riot police initially clashed with mobs in attempts to hold them back, but protesters surged past cordons and scaled the walls at the embassy complex, which they pelted with petrol bombs and stones. Flames shot out of

a sport utility vehicle parked outside the brick building and occupiers tossed papers apparently looted from an office.

"Death to England!" some cried outside the compound in the first significant assault of a foreign diplomatic area in Iran in years.

Inside the compound, protesters replaced the British flag with a banner in the name of 7th-century Shiite saint, Imam Hussein. One man showed a picture of Queen Elizabeth II apparently taken off a wall.

Chants called for the closure of the embassy and called it a "spy den"—the same phrase used after militants stormed the U.S. Embassy in Tehran after the 1979 Islamic Revolution and held 52 hostages for 444 days. In the early moments of that siege, protesters tossed out papers from the compound and pulled down the U.S. flag. Washington and Tehran have had no diplomatic relations since then.

It was not immediately clear

Tuesday if the protesters entered the main embassy building or only reached auxiliary sites.

In another part of Tehran, the official IRNA news agency said about 300 protesters entered a complex used for embassy staff and other officials and replaced British flags with Iranian ones. Iranian media said six workers were detained by protesters at that site—with some describing them as hostages—but the semiofficial Fars news agency said they were released after negotiations with police. Their nationalities were not given.

Britain's Foreign Secretary William Hague downplayed suggestions of a hostage situation, saying there had been "confusing" reports coming out of Iran.

By nightfall—more than three hours after the assaults began—Iranian authorities appeared to have regained control of both British compounds. Riot police surrounded the embassy compound and officials said all protesters were driven out.

## WORLD BRIEFS

## Plane believed carrying Ivory Coast's Gbagbo lands

**THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)**—A plane believed to be carrying former Ivory Coast President Laurent Gbagbo landed early Wednesday in the Netherlands ahead of his transfer to the International Criminal Court. The Ivorian plane arrived at Rotterdam The Hague Airport shortly before 4 a.m. (0300 GMT) and taxied to a hangar where it was met by a convoy of black cars. The international court did not immediately confirm that Gbagbo was on the plane. But its arrival at the airport close to the outskirts of The Hague and the waiting fleet of cars was similar to the procedure followed when other high-profile suspects such as former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic and Bosnian Serb military chief Gen. Ratko Mladic were transferred to other international tribunals in The Hague.

## Norway killer found insane, unfit for prison

**OSLO, Norway (AP)**—Confessed mass killer Anders Behring Breivik belongs in psychiatric care instead of prison, Norwegian prosecutors said Tuesday after a mental evalua-

tion declared him legally insane during a bomb-and-shooting rampage that killed 77 people. The court-ordered assessment found that the self-styled anti-Muslim militant was psychotic during the July 22 attacks, which would make him mentally unfit to be convicted and imprisoned for the country's worst peacetime massacre. The report, written by two psychiatrists who spent 36 hours talking to Breivik, will be reviewed by an expert panel before the Oslo district court rules on his mental state.

## Tunisia again extends state of emergency

**TUNIS, Tunisia (AP)**—Tunisian authorities have extended the North African nation's state of emergency for the rest of the year, the state news agency reported Tuesday. The report did not give reasons for the extension, but Tunisia has faced intermittent bouts of violence and unrest in recent months. Some of the protests have involved hard-line Muslims or youths angry about high unemployment. Interim President Fouad Mebazza signed the decree extending the state of emergency for the fourth time since it was first enacted during street unrest after the fall of Tunisia's longtime autocratic leader in January.



# Focus

By **KURT STREETER**  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

## *Last of a two-part series*

**LOS ANGELES**—My name, he wrote, is John Paul Madrona. “I just want to say I am sorry for the pain I have brought to you.”

He sat at an old computer in a prison clerk’s office. He took a deep breath. “I had no right to do what I did. I am not sure if you can forgive me for taking Tracy’s life. . . .”

He stopped. Not good enough.

He clicked on “print,” read the words again, then crumpled the letter into a wastebasket. Would he ever find the right way to apologize? It didn’t feel like it.

Eighteen years earlier, he had killed a well-loved environmental chemist, Tracy Takahashi, mistakenly thinking he was in a rival gang. Now Madrona, serving 30 years to life, needed Takahashi’s family to know how sorry he was.

He needed redemption.

The letter was only part of his effort to atone. Well before dawn every day, he rose from his metal bunk, read the Bible and meditated. At sunrise he walked through the penitentiary where he lived—the California Medical Facility in Vacaville—and into a cramped, cordoned-off wing that held a hospice for convicts.

Madrona, who with another gang member fatally shot Takahashi at the door of his Gardena apartment in 1993, now was helping terminally ill inmates die in peace.

He was one of 12 convicted murderers who worked at the hospice under Keith Knauf, a prison chaplain. They sat with the dying men, many of them killers themselves, often in silence deep into the night, trying to give them comfort.

In March of 2011, Madrona began a deathwatch with “the kid,” a 24-year-old thief named Freddy Garcia, who had colon cancer. Garcia, serving nine years for his second felony, had been a gangster. Menacing tattoos covered his shaved head. But he also was fragile, fearful, and wanted his mother to hold him.

Garcia reminded Madrona, 35, of the foolish kid he had been when he killed at 18. It didn’t take long for the reminder to magnify his feelings of guilt.

“My crime, my victim, his family, his brother, his parents, the pain they feel I can only imagine,” he said one day in the chaplain’s office. He shuddered.

“Tracy Takahashi . . . Tracy Takahashi. His name is grooved in my mind deep—so deep I cannot run from it. I will always be connected to him. . . . Tracy Takahashi. He will be with me until I die.” Often, he said, he had nightmares about the crime that produced terrible, unforgettable sensations. He would be overcome by searing cold and feel as if he was freezing.

Maybe the letter would help.

He hoped the Takahashi family would want to read it someday. If they didn’t, he would understand. He knew some people would think his efforts were aimed at getting a parole board to set him free. But it wasn’t like that. He needed to forgive himself. He’d started the letter dozens of times, but the words were never there.



LOS ANGELES TIMES

Freddy Garcia is helped by Jessica Figueroa, left, and Salvadore Garcia at Freddy’s parents home in Carson, California, on September 23, 2011. Freddy, who suffered from colon cancer, died days later.

## Care and atonement: At a loss for the right words

“Sometimes, honestly, it feels hopeless,” Madrona said.

■ ■ ■

In November 2010, prison doctors had given “the kid” six months. By spring, Garcia had outlived that death sentence.

He spoke often of beating cancer, of getting out of prison and living happily with Marina Luevano, the woman he’d married after persuading prison officials to allow the first wedding in the hospice’s 20 years.

“I’m just praying I can get out and be a normal citizen and live happily ever after with my girl,” he said, sitting on his bed. The beige walls around him were adorned with letters from Luevano and photos of the two of them.

Luevano visited often, but they had begun arguing. When Garcia thought she was not showing enough enthusiasm for his dream of living free and having a son, he sank into deep depression.

“You can’t be worried about stuff like that anymore,” Madrona told him. They spoke mostly at night, Madrona sitting in a small chair beside Garcia’s bed.

“Stop stressing so much,” Madrona said. “You don’t have time.”

The cancer was spreading. Madrona saw a hard lump on Garcia’s neck. He heard him gasp for breath.

Before the younger man died, Madrona wanted to teach Garcia the most important lessons he’d learned. He told Garcia the past could not be controlled and what mattered was how he lived his life now, how he treated others, how seriously he was preparing for what both men believed in: heaven or hell.

Garcia said he wasn’t sure he was worthy of heaven. He’d been in shootouts and wondered if he’d killed someone.

Like Madrona, he had nightmares. In some he saw the devil and ran toward God. God laughed.

“Get right with Jesus,” Madrona said. “Only he can forgive.”

Garcia pored over the tattered blue Bible he kept near his pillow. He spoke of having another dream. This time, God didn’t laugh but promised a miracle. God wouldn’t say what it would be.

“I’m a different man now,” Garcia

said. “I don’t have to walk around worried about you because you might be in another gang. . . . I used to act tough but, really, I’m not so tough. I’ve been humbled.”

Madrona looked at the tattoos on Garcia’s head and leveled with him: “So long as everyone can see the tattoos, everyone is going to wonder if you’re just playing games. . . .”

“You have to be ready. Start preparing for what is coming.”

Garcia began to grow his hair. Soon the tattoos could barely be seen. He used soapy water to clean the gang symbols he’d scribbled on his prison flip-flops. He began to offer advice of his own.

Madrona didn’t speak much to others about his crime, but he’d told Garcia the details of what happened and how frustrated he felt trying to write his apology.

“Keep going,” Garcia urged. “One day, the right words will be there.” Garcia had a better handle on English than Madrona did and promised to edit the letter.

Neither man knew how much time was left. Garcia’s pain began to feel like jolts of hot energy. He went to sleep wondering if he would wake up.

Within two days, five men had died, a tremendous toll even at the hospice. Garcia watched some of them being zipped inside body bags. He felt he was next.

“I don’t want other people to think I’m a coward,” he said, “so don’t tell nobody, but I’m afraid.”

Soon after, Madrona saw that Garcia had stripped bare the walls above his bed. Luevano’s letters and photos were gone. The conflict with his new wife had taken a toll. He’d looked in a phone book for a divorce lawyer and rarely spoke of her again.

Madrona had seen other men distance themselves like this, seen them remove letters and photos from their walls.

“He’s getting ready,” he said. “It will be very hard. For him, of course. But this one, for me, it will be very, very hard too. Freddy has become my little brother.”

By the end of June, Garcia was spending afternoons beneath his covers, stifling tears, imagining his mother

being there.

Late one night he shuffled to the hospice foyer, where Madrona sat in the dark with George Taylor, a 59-year-old killer with a cancerous tumor jutting from his throat. Some people in the hospice avoided Taylor.

Madrona was laughing with him, reading him Bible stories and carefully wiping his face.

“You’re not going to die tonight, Taylor,” Madrona said. “Not tonight.”

Months earlier, when their friendship began, Garcia had tested Madrona by offering him a cellphone, illegal in the prison, and the address of a girl to write to. It was a street gesture, an attempt to display power and gain favor. Madrona had rejected both.

Now, as Madrona sat with Taylor, Garcia approached, carrying a bowl of rice and spiced beans he’d mixed together from his rations.

“John Paul, I know that you are down about Taylor and I want you to know I care, so would you like some food?”

Madrona wasn’t hungry. But he believed he was dealing with a changed man. He accepted.

■ ■ ■

Dying in the hospice was the most many sick inmates could hope for. There was a staff of doctors and nurses. There was the chaplain and his care workers. There were guards, of course, but it looked nothing like most prisons. Curtains framed the windows, bars were hidden and paintings were affixed to walls. Still, no dying man really wanted to spend his final days there.

By July, Garcia was convinced a last miracle was close. He pinned his hopes on a nonprofit Oakland law clinic, Justice Now, whose lawyers were pushing the state to grant a compassionate release.

He’d already twice made such an appeal and been denied. Few at the hospice thought a third bid would work. Garcia could still walk. A judge could decide he was dangerous.

Compassionate releases were infrequent in California.

Madrona, though, was hopeful. “Who thought he would get married?” he said. “Who thought he would live this long? I believe.”

It needed to happen quickly. Garcia was failing. On July 30, he rose slowly

from his bed and limped to the chaplain’s office, where he had a phone call. His mother had news: A judge from the Los Angeles County Superior Court had agreed to his release. “The court finds that Mr. Garcia poses no threat to public safety,” the judge’s ruling read.

Garcia was going home within 48 hours. He slumped in the chaplain’s chair. Then he and Chaplain Knauf stood together, reciting prayers of thankfulness.

Two days later, when the time came for Garcia to leave, Madrona was permitted to escort him to a doorway that led to the world outside. Madrona had not been that close in years.

“I can’t wait to go home,” Garcia said. “Freedom.”

“I can only imagine,” Madrona said. “I’m sorry,” Garcia said. “I’m sorry.”

They hugged and shook hands. Madrona knew he would never see Garcia again, just as he knew he might never leave prison himself. One thing worried him: Garcia had shaved his head.

“Just remember that if you really want to change your life, you not only do that by saying it but by showing it,” Madrona said. “Stay away from anything negative. Show yourself how much you have changed.”

Garcia nodded—yes, yes—and then turned to leave.

Madrona watched him hobble out the sunlit doorway.

■ ■ ■

Garcia’s waiting family drove him home to Carson. On the way, he burst into tears when he saw the skyscrapers of downtown Los Angeles. He spent August with his family and Breanna, his 3-year-old daughter.

He spoke wistfully of Madrona, vowing to phone the hospice so the two could talk again. He didn’t. It was just too hard to look back.

He grew so weak he needed help getting out of bed. Speaking was difficult and waking moments were painful.

Early on Sunday, Sept. 25, Garcia died. His mother was holding him.

When Knauf delivered the news, Madrona was silent for a moment. He thought of taking the day off but decided not to. Since Garcia left, 10 inmates had died. More were near death. Madrona felt he was needed.

“I’m glad I could be there for my little brother, but this experience helps me understand,” he said. He understood that what he had done for his friend would not be enough.

“No matter what I do in here, I can’t take back the mistake I made. . . . I have to accept that and then I have to do my best to keep helping people any way I can.”

Not long afterward, Madrona sat again in front of the old IBM computer. He began typing another version of his apology to Tracy Takahashi’s family. This time the words began to feel right.

*Los Angeles Times staff writer Kurt Streeter spent days inside the California Medical Facility hospice, interacting with the inmates, staff and guards. He regularly spoke with Chaplain Keith Knauf, interviewed John Paul Madrona and Freddy Garcia numerous times, reviewed their court files and interviewed their lawyers, relatives and Tracy Takahashi’s brother Dean.*



# Environment

## Tips for eco-friendly gifts this holiday season



A shopper looks over the electronics section for Black Friday deals in Cockeysville, Maryland, on Friday, November 25, 2011. You can find the Energy Star label on nearly all entertainment products from TVs and Blu-ray disc players to home-theaters-in-a-box. BALTIMORE SUN/MCT

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is offering holiday gift-giving tips that will help support a healthy environment this season and all year long. Energy Star, Design for the Environment, and WaterSense labels can be found on thousands of products across the country, making it easy to choose gifts that can help anyone on your list save energy and protect the environment. By using these products this holiday season, consumers can cut their energy bills and harmful pollution while helping keep our environment healthy.

### Labels that save gift recipients money

**Energy Star home entertainment:** You can find the Energy Star label on nearly all entertainment products from TVs and Blu-ray disc players to home-theaters-in-a-box. If you are in the mar-

ket for a digital picture frame, consider one that has earned the Energy Star. It uses 25 percent less energy than non-qualified models.

**Energy Star office products:** Shoppers can also find the Energy Star label on office products such

as computers, LCD monitors, notebooks, multifunction printers and more. A home office fully equipped with Energy Star qualified products can save up to \$380 over the lifetime of the products. Energy Star qualified computers and monitors were created with a power management sleep mode to ensure you are saving

energy (and money on utility bills) when the product is not in use.

**Energy Star qualified battery chargers for your favorite product:** Products that use Energy Star qualified battery chargers, such as video game controls, digital cameras, shavers, hand vacuums, power tools, and cordless lawn mowers, use 35 percent less energy compared to conventional chargers. Old battery chargers can be recycled through many manufacturers and retailers that have electronics recycling programs nationwide.

**Healthier homes 'Design for the Environment' label:** From pet care products to dish soaps to supplies for a car, consumers should look for the Design for the Environment (DfE) label to quickly identify and choose products that are safer for families and also help protect the environ-

ment. In 2010, Americans using products with the DfE label cut the use of harmful chemicals by more than 600 million pounds.

### Festive and healthy holiday tips

**Holiday decorating:** Look for the Energy Star label on LED decorative light strings to meet your holiday decorating needs. Qualified light strings use about 70 percent less electricity than incandescent light strings and are available in a variety of colors, shapes, and lengths. These Energy Star qualified light strings save energy and are more durable, shock-resistant and cooler to the touch.

**New electronic gift? Recycle the old one:** Encourage gift recipients to reuse or recycle their old electronics, allowing the valuable materials within to be used again in new products while helping to save natural resources. Check out EPA's Plug-In To eCycling initiative for more information on how to safely recycle electronics, including cell phones, computers, and TVs.

**Reusable bags:** Millions of paper and plastic bags end up in the landfills every year. Skip the extra bags and bring reusable cloth bags when shopping-- they're environmentally friendly and cost efficient.

**Skip the excess wrapping:** Try wrapping gifts in recycled paper bags, recycled wrapping paper, or give gifts that don't require excess packaging to keep more trash out of landfills.

**Have a water efficient H2Oli-day:** Preparing for and cleaning up after a holiday meal often requires more water use than usual. Running your tap continuously while preparing food or washing dishes wastes water and can use more than two gallons of water every minute your tap is running. EPA's WaterSense program provides useful tips and over 4,000 products have earned the WaterSense label to save water, energy and money. If every American household reduced their water use by 10 gallons on just Thanksgiving Day, it would save more than 1 billion gallons of water. (EPA)

## First Friday Films to feature BBC's South Pacific Series

First Friday Films will be featuring two episodes of BBC's South Pacific Series on Friday, Dec. 2, 2011, at American Memorial Park Visitors Center.

First showing will be of last month's film BBC's *South Pacific: Ocean of Islands* at 5:15pm for those who missed it, following BBC's *South Pacific: Fragile Paradise* at 6:30pm.

The South Pacific is still relatively healthy and teeming with fish, but it is a fragile paradise. International fishing fleets are taking a serious toll on the sharks, albatross and tuna, and there are other insidious threats to these bountiful seas. Worst of all are ecological threats, notably global warming, which causes rising sea levels as well as climatic changes including storms and floods. This episode looks at the conservational measures, such as reserves and replanting coral reefs and what is being done to preserve the ocean and its wildlife.

First Friday Films is a monthly film series brought to you through a partnership with the National Park Service and the Division of Environmental Quality, with generous support from community groups. This particular film is provided by the Bearden Foundation.



*Fragile Paradise* has helped to raise awareness throughout the world of overfishing. It aims to visualize the sheer scale and intensity of modern fishing methods, as part of a portrait of the conservation issues faced by the South Pacific—one of the few healthy seas left.

For planning purposes, both films run about 50 minutes long. As always, First Friday Films is free and open to the public. Find more information about

the film at [www.firstfridayfilmssaipan.blogspot.com](http://www.firstfridayfilmssaipan.blogspot.com). Subscribe to the blog for regular updates on upcoming events. (DEQ)

### DO YOUR PART

## Smarter shipping solutions

By TERRI BENNETT  
MCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

Is your holiday shopping list getting shorter now with all those Black Friday and Cyber Monday sales? As you begin checking your list twice, you'll soon start sending out presents that need to get to love ones far away. Do Your Part and seek out less wasteful shipping solutions that are easy on you and the planet.

If you're ordering online, consider shipping the gift directly to the recipient. Many online retailers have gift-wrapping options available. And Amazon.com has a new feature that I'm sure many shoppers will love. It's called 'Frustration-Free Packaging.' This option is available on more than 70,000 products and it means those items will come without hard plastic clamshell casing, plastic bindings, and wire ties. Sometimes the item is even shipped in its original box rather than being packaged in another. Here's the best part. These "Frustration-Free Packaging" items were never over-packaged. Instead, Amazon works directly with manufacturers to get them off the assembly line and to you or your loved one with the least amount of waste.

If you are shipping from home, reusing boxes you already have is always a smart idea. It could be as simple as shoebox or a bigger one that you've stashed away just for this time of year. The United States Postal Service also makes it easy to go green no matter what you send. Their boxes are 100 percent recyclable, made from recycled content, and Cradle to Cradle certified. You can go online and have the USPS deliver boxes right to your door along with stamps. You can also schedule pick-ups once your package is ready for shipment.

When it comes to protecting your fragile presents, items you already have could be the perfect solution. Bunches of newspaper or magazine pages, shredded bills, plastic bags and any saved packing peanuts all work well. If you need to purchase materials, consider CareMail's line of biodegradable packing peanuts made from corn and potato starch. They actually dissolve in water. You can buy them at Staples, Office-Max and online. If you receive a package loaded with traditional Styrofoam packing peanuts this season, don't trash them. Most any Parcel Post location will accept and reuse them. You can find more information on greener shipping products at [DoYourPart.com/columns](http://DoYourPart.com/columns).

Just a few of these smarter shipping solutions will help you give back to the planet during this season of giving. It's the perfect way to show your family and friends how you Do Your Part to care about the world around us. That's another important lesson for each one of us during this special time of year.

*Terri Bennett is a veteran TV meteorologist, author, and founder of DoYourPart, everyday green living ideas that are better for you and the planet. Send questions to [terri@doyourpart.com](mailto:terri@doyourpart.com) and follow DoYourPart on Facebook and Twitter.*



# Life & Style

## Jackson doctor sentenced to four years in prison

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—The doctor convicted in the overdose death of Michael Jackson was sentenced to the maximum four years behind bars Tuesday by a judge who denounced him as a reckless physician whose actions were a "disgrace to the medical profession."

Dr. Conrad Murray sat stoically with his hands crossed as Superior Court Judge Michael Pastor repeatedly chastised him for what he called a "horrific violation of trust" while caring for Jackson.

However, Pastor conceded

his sentence was constrained by a recent change in California law that requires Murray to serve his sentence in county jail rather than state prison.

Sheriff's officials later said Murray will serve a little less than two years behind bars while housed in a one-man cell and kept away from other prisoners.

"This is going to be a real test of our criminal justice system to see if it's meaningful at all," District Attorney Steve Cooley said.

Cooley said he was consid-

ering asking the judge to modify the sentence to classify the crime as a serious felony warranting incarceration in state prison.

The judge was relentless in his bashing of the 58-year-old Murray, saying he lied repeatedly and had not shown remorse for his actions in the treatment of

Jackson. Pastor also said Murray's heavy use of the powerful anesthetic propofol to help Jackson battle insomnia violat-

ed his sworn obligation.

"It should be made very clear that experimental medicine is

not going to be tolerated, and Mr. Jackson was an experiment," Pastor said. "Dr. Murray was intrigued by the prospect and he engaged in this money for medicine madness that is simply not going to be

tolerated by me." Pastor also said Murray has "absolutely no sense of fault, and is and remains dangerous"



Murray

to the community.

The judge said one of the most disturbing aspects of Murray's case was a slurred recording of Jackson recovered from the doctor's cell phone.

"That tape recording was Dr. Murray's insurance policy," Pastor said. "It was designed to record his patient surreptitiously at that patient's most vulnerable point."

Defense attorney J. Michael Flanagan contended that nothing said during the hearing would have changed the judge's mind about the sentence.

Michael Jackson's family told The Associated Press after the sentencing that they were pleased with the results.

"We're going to be a family. We're going to move forward. We're going to tour, play the music and miss him," brother Jermaine Jackson said.

Murray was convicted of involuntary manslaughter after a six-week trial that presented the most detailed account yet of Jackson's final hours but left many questions about Murray's treatment of the superstar with propofol.

**NEW YORK (AP)**—It's not just the push-up bras or feathered wings that give some top Victoria's Secret models their sexy swagger: It's their off-the-catwalk lives as mothers that give them their confidence and signature curves, they say.

Miranda Kerr, Doutzen Kroes and Alessandra Ambrosio have all been crowned VS Angels, so they are among the half-dozen

## Victoria's Secret stacks its stage with model moms

models to get the best outfits and most face time during the lingerie giant's televised annual fashion show, which was scheduled to air Tuesday night on CBS. Backstage, wearing their short, hot-pink satin robes, they're also the ones attracting the most attention.

What were they talking about

with all those photographers, makeup artists and other models? Nutrition, exercise and juggling their jet-setting careers with their little ones.

Kroes and Kerr have bona fide babies, both giving birth to sons last January. Ambrosio's daughter was born in 2008.

Motherhood hasn't slowed

them down at all: Kerr even got to wear the coveted diamond-covered bra. "I was asked to do it after I gave birth," said Kerr. "That was awesome. It's such an honor."

Ed Razek, chief marketing officer for Victoria's Secret parent Limited Brands, has long taken the position that

the company wants feminine, womanly models, because that's who looks best in the lingerie. "It's true, a number of our models have come back from having a baby more beautiful than ever. I know that some of them have used the show date as a goal to get back in shape and, I think,

having a baby has given them a sense of confidence, an 'I can do anything' attitude that is reflected on the runway."

One thing model moms can do is make money. Forbes ranks Gisele Bundchen, Heidi Klum, Kate Moss, Adriana Lima and Ambrosio—all often photographed with their children—as the top earners of the industry this year.



### ► DOUTZEN KROES

It was empowering to mold her new figure into shape, said Kroes, 27, who did "abs, abs, lots of ab exercises all the time." Her body isn't quite the same now as it was pre-baby, and she hopes it never goes back. "I wish every woman can feel so sexy after birth. It's your body but it's also a feeling."

Her two worlds might not seem on the surface a perfect match, but they are, she said. "You get your hair and make-

up done!"

She also has a lot of control over her schedule. Even if she needs to be on location for a few days, it'll never be longer, and then she'll have many days off, Kroes explained. "It's not a 9 to 5 job."

She often can bring Phyllon on set, although she only does that when working locally. "I don't want him to become a 'traveler' when he is still so young."



### ► ALESSANDRA AMBROSIO

Her catwalk costumes are a little less risque now, but she's not ready to hang up the Brazilian-cup bras and short shorts. "I'm definitely more proud of my body now," she said. "Our bodies are changed as we get older, and I'm more conscious of it now. Now, I'm a woman doing the show, not a girl."

Part of that is giving up chocolate in the weeks before the show; she didn't always have to do that. Part of it is being able to walk in heels without teetering and she's also learned to ham it up for the camera and the audience.

Ambrosio got her Angel wings in 2004, when she was the first spokesmodel for the then-new Pink collection, which is loungewear geared for a more youthful customer. That's when she felt she was "a flirty and cheeky teenager" versus the sexy woman she is at age 30.

There might be a model in training at home in daughter Anja, who also loves to come to work with her.

"She loves dressing up, and there is always a lot of dress up here. There are wings—so much fun for her!"



### ► MIRANDA KERR

Pilates, yoga, weight training with resistance bags. They were all key factors in Kerr's new-mom fitness routine, said the 28-year-old, and they're all things that can be done in her living room.

"I do have less time, but I do try to exercise every day. I exercise at home with my son playing around with his toys on the floor."

She says she hopes he's watching and that he'll learn to incorporate physical activity into his daily life without a thought. The same goes for a healthy diet.

Flynn is too young to watch the Victoria's Secret show now, of course, but Kerr will let him see her runway photos later.

"I'm sure he'll be happy his mom had wings."



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#### The Muppets

Friday & Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:40
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Monday thru Thursday		4:20	7:20	

Jason Segel, Amy Adams  
Children's/family, Comedy • Rated PG

#### Synopsis

When an evil oil man discovers black gold beneath Muppet Theater, Kermit recruits a Muppet super-fan and his two best friends to help gather up the gang for a telethon that will save the venue from being razed and replaced with a giant oil pump. Tex Richman (Chris Cooper) never met an oil field he couldn't suck dry. So when Tex discovers a bountiful reservoir right underneath Muppet Theater, he begins drawing up plans to claim the land and start drilling. Little does Tex realize that devoted Muppets fan Walter is currently in Los Angeles with his best friends Gary (Jason Segel) and Mary (Amy Adams), and that he's not about to let one man's greed spoil a good thing for everyone. With Kermit by their side, Walter, Gary, and Mary hatch a plan to put on a big telethon that will help them raise the ten million dollars needed to keep Muppet Theater standing.



#### Arthur Christmas

Friday & Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:45
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Monday thru Thursday		4:10	7:10	

James McAvoy, Hugh Laurie  
Comedy • Rated PG



#### Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn-Part 1

Friday & Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	10:00
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Monday thru Thursday		4:15	7:15	

Robert Pattinson, Kristen Stewart  
Fantasy • Rated PG 13



#### Happy Feet Two

Friday & Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:30
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Monday thru Thursday		4:00	7:00	

Elijah Wood, Robin Williams  
Children's/family • Rated PG



#### Immortals

Friday & Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:55
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	
Monday thru Thursday		4:25	7:25	

Henry Cavill, Mickey Rourke, Freida Pinto  
Epic • Rated R



#### Jack and Jill

Friday & Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	9:50
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Monday thru Thursday		4:30	7:30	

Adam Sandler, Katie Holmes  
Comedy • Rated PG



#### Tower Heist

Friday & Saturday				9:35
Sunday			7:05	
Monday thru Thursday			7:05	

Ben Stiller, Eddie Murphy  
Crime, Comedy • Rated PG 13



#### Puss in Boots

Friday & Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Sunday	1:05	4:05		
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Anronio Banderas, Salma Hayek  
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## NY film critics pick 'The Artist' as best film

NEW YORK (AP)—The New York Film Critics Circle named the silent film ode "The Artist" the year's best film Tuesday, giving the nostalgic black-and-white movie an early boost to its already promising Academy Awards prospects.

"The Artist," which is silent like the films to which it pays homage, also earned best director for the French filmmaker Michel Hazanavicius.

"It's a celebration of cinema," said John Anderson, chairman of the group and critic. "It's clever and it's upbeat and all that, but it's really about the movies. Of course, that's going to strike a chord among critics."

The boldly old-fashioned "The Artist," which the Weinstein Company opened in limited release last week, has emerged as an unlikely front-runner in the early stages of the Oscar race.

The critics otherwise, as they usually do, spread the awards around. Brad Pitt won best actor for his performances in the baseball film "Moneyball" and Terrence Malick's cosmic drama "Tree of Life." Both of those films also earned other awards: "Tree of Life" for best cinematography by Emmanuel Lubezki and "Moneyball" for Steven Zaillian and Aaron Sorokin's screenplay.

Meryl Steep was chosen as best actress for her performance as Margaret Thatcher in the upcoming "The Iron Lady." The suddenly ubiquitous Jessica Chastain won best supporting actress for a trio of performances in "Tree of Life," "The Help" and "Take Shelter."

Albert Brooks earned best supporting actor for his against-type performance as a violent villain in the drama "Drive."

The New York Film Critics moved up their annual vote this year, a shift that was widely seen as a bid for greater relevance in the fall award season, which effectively began in earnest Tuesday. The move also meant some finagling: The critics screened "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo" on Monday, and were not able to see the eagerly anticipated 9/11 drama "Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close."

Anderson didn't deny that the move was partially for a louder voice in the awards conversation, but said other reasons were foremost.

"I thought it would be interesting for us to be able to vote without other awards having been given out," said Anderson, a critic for Variety and Newsday. "Subconsciously or consciously, people are affected by other groups' voting. It may sound petty, but if (the Los Angeles Film Critics) gives a film best picture, a lot of our members are inclined to go the other way."

Anderson said the group might return to a later time next year because a number of members didn't like jamming in the screenings in a smaller window.



In this film publicity image released by The Weinstein Company, Jean Dujardin portrays George Valentin, left, and Berenice Bejo portrays Peppy Miller in a scene from "The Artist."

## 'Artist,' 'Take Shelter' lead Spirit Awards noms

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The silent movie "The Artist" and the doomsday drama "Take Shelter" led the Spirit Awards honoring independent film on Tuesday with five nominations each, including best picture.

Also in the running for best picture were the cancer tale "50/50"; the action thriller "Drive"; and the family dramas "Beginners" and "The Descendants."

A black-and-white throwback to early Hollywood, "The Artist" also earned a lead-actor nomination for Jean Dujardin as a silent film star whose career crumbles as the sound era takes over in the late 1920s. The film grabbed directing and screenplay nominations for Michel Hazanavicius, along with a cinematography slot for Guillaume Schiffman.

"Take Shelter" star Michael Shannon earned a lead-actor nomination as a family man who comes unhinged amid visions of a coming apocalyptic storm. Co-star Jessica Chastain was nominated for supporting actress, while "Take Shelter" also received nominations for director Jeff Nichols and a prize for emerging producers for Sophia Lin.

Other lead-actor contenders were Ryan Gosling for "Drive," Demian Bichir for the immigrant drama "A Better Life" and Woody Harrelson for the police story "Rampart."

The lead-actress field included Michelle Williams as Marilyn Monroe in "My Week with Marilyn." Also nominated were Lauren Ambrose for the single-mom story "Think of Me," Rachael Harris for the road-trip comedy "Natural Selection," Adepero Oduye for the teen drama "Pariah" and Elizabeth Olsen as an escapee from a cult in "Martha Marcy May Marlene."

Presented by the cinema group Film Independent, the Spirit Awards will be handed out the day before the Academy Awards, at an afternoon ceremony on Feb. 25. The show will air later that night on IFC.

The Spirit Awards nominations are one of the first key honors on the long road to the Oscars,

which often are dominated by big Hollywood films but generally include many nominees from the independent film world.

Last season's top winner at the Spirit Awards, "Black Swan," also was a hit with Academy voters, earning a best-picture nomination there and winning the best-actress Oscar for Natalie Portman.

Notably absent from the Spirit Awards lineup was Academy Award winner George Clooney, considered a strong prospect for a best-actor nomination at the Oscars for "The Descendants."

"Like Crazy," the top winner at last January's Sundance Film Festival, was completely overlooked, receiving no nominations.

The stars of Woody Allen's romantic fantasy "Midnight in Paris"—among them Owen Wilson, Rachel McAdams and Oscar winners Marion Cotillard and Kathy Bates—missed out, too. But their relatively unknown co-star, Corey Stoll, picked up a supporting-actor nomination for his scene-stealing role as Ernest Hemingway.

Clooney's young co-star Shailene Woodley, who plays his daughter in "The Descendants," earned a supporting-actress slot.

Nominees in the supporting categories included Christopher Plummer for "Beginners," Oscar winner Anjelica Huston for "50/50," Albert Brooks for "Drive" and John Hawkes for "Martha Marcy May Marlene," who won the supporting-actor prize at last season's Spirit Awards for "Winter's Bone."

Along with Hazanavicius and Nichols, directing nominees were Mike Mills for "Beginners," Alexander Payne for "The Descendants" and Nicolas Winding Refn for "Drive."

Spirit Awards nominees were chosen by panels of film professionals. Members of Film Independent, who include filmmakers and movie fans, are eligible to vote on the winners.

Eligible films must have production budgets of no more than \$20 million and meet independent-cinema criteria that include uniqueness of vision and original, provocative subject matter.

Werner Herzog's 3-D documentary "Cave of Forgotten Dreams" was selected as best nonfiction film. The financial industry thriller "Margin Call" won best first feature. And the Iranian drama "A Separation" was picked for best foreign film.

The year's special award was given posthumously to the prolific Chilean-born filmmaker Raoul Ruiz, who died

in August, shortly after the U.S. release of his acclaimed "Mysteries of Lisbon."

The New York Film Critics Circle, a body of 33 New York-based critics founded in 1935, announced their annual vote on Twitter for the first time. The group describes its awards as "a principled alternative to the Oscars, honoring esthetic merit in a forum that is immune to com-

mercial and political pressures." The group last year chose the Facebook drama "The Social Network" as best picture.

Among the films snubbed by the critics were Alexander Payne's "The Descendants," Martin Scorsese's "Hugo" and Steven Spielberg's "War Horse."

The awards will be handed out at a ceremony Jan. 9.



## Winehouse dress fetches over \$67,100 at auction

**LONDON (AP)**—The dress worn by Amy Winehouse on the cover of the late singer's Grammy-winning "Back to Black" album has sold for over 43,000 pounds (\$67,120) at auction.

Kerry Taylor Auctions says the polka-dot chiffon dress, designed in 2006, was purchased by Musea de la Moda—a fashion museum in Santiago, Chile—for 43,200 pounds.

It said the dress's designer, Disaya, agreed to donate proceeds from the sale to a foundation set up in Winehouse's name.

Winehouse's father, Mitch, attended the auction and called the donation a "wonderful start to the foundation," which was set up to help vulnerable youth following Winehouse's death in July.

A British coroner ruled the singer, known for her beehive hairdos, drank herself to death.



**AP**  
Mitch Winehouse with his late daughter Amy Winehouse's dress—a printed chiffon dress by the designer Disaya and worn by her for the cover of her 'Back to Black' album in 2006—during a press preview for the 'Passion for Fashion' auction, in central London Monday Nov. 28, 2011.

## Bono: Alicia Keys has 'lioness energy'

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Bono is afraid of Alicia Keys.

While Keys talked about being pregnant and empathic when filming her documentary about AIDS in Africa, the U2 singer chimed in and said: "She's scary, isn't she? She's scary."

Bono went on to say that Keys has "lioness energy" and that her role as a new mother won't allow her to "let other mothers suffer."

He made the comments at the premiere of "Keep a Child Alive with Alicia Keys," a documentary which followed a visit to South Africa during last year's World Cup with a pregnant Keys and five Americans. It airs on Showtime on Dec. 1, which is World AIDS Day.

Bono said he met Keys when they recorded a cover of Marvin Gaye's "What's Going On"—with dozens of other musicians—in 2001.

"I was terrified the moment I met her. I was shaking in my boots," he said. "I was

very moved by her singing of course, but what was interesting was the hard questions afterwards, and I think it's those hard questions that she asks that lead her."

Keys started her charity, Keep a Child Alive, in 2003. It assists those affected by HIV/AIDS in Africa and India.

She says she hopes the film reaches out to those who want to help, but can't make it to Africa.

"Even if you never have been able to travel there, or if you never can, that doesn't mean you can't travel with us and really see it for yourself," she said.

Bono says Keys has what it takes to make a difference in Africa, and around the world.

"Everyone's got heart, but actually you have to have the head for this," he said. "You have to be tough and strategic, you have to be demanding, (and) the money has to be spent well." If the money isn't spent well, he said, people get annoyed, "and so all these things take a certain intellectual rigor."



**AP**  
Bono, left, and Alicia Keys attend the premiere of the Showtime documentary "Keep a Child Alive with Alicia Keys", in New York, Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2011.

## Investment in Broadway's 'Book of Mormon' pays off

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Nine Tony Awards, critical praise and some filthy humor has made "The Book of Mormon" a solid Broadway investment.

Producers of the hit show said Tuesday that it has recouped its \$11.4 million capitalization after just nine months.

The musical is the brainchild of Trey Parker and Matt Stone, creators of "South Park," and Robert Lopez, who co-wrote "Avenue Q."

It was crowned best musical for its offensive yet good-natured look at two missionaries who arrive in Uganda and get way more than they bargained for, including gun-toting warlords and a running gag about maggots in a man's scrotum.

The show is one of the hardest tickets to score and, thanks to premium pricing, took in more than \$1.6 million at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre last week.

## Misbehaving kids often learn from parents' bad example

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** I want you to know how much I agree with your answer to "Paying for My Popcorn in Oregon" (Sept. 15), who complained about her niece sneaking food into the theater.

I used to teach a parenting class to parents who had kids in trouble with the law. I started out by asking, "How many of you teach your children to lie, cheat or steal?" Of course nobody admitted they did. I then had about 20 items I'd list, the movie food issue being one, driving over the speed limit, and so on. At least one of the 20 applied to everybody.

Then I'd say: "You taught your kids that it was OK to lie, cheat and steal—it's only getting caught that's bad. That's why you are in my class today." This is what that niece is teaching her children.

PAUL IN DENVER



*Dear Abby*

**DEAR PAUL:** Thank you for agreeing. However, I'm sorry to say that many readers thought the issue was more about the cost and selection of snacks than that of cheating the theater owners. My newspaper readers comment:

**DEAR ABBY:** For a family of four to see a movie and get a drink and popcorn or candy costs about \$80. This is highway robbery. The cost of a drink is about 5 or 10 cents to the theater, and they charge a whopping \$5. The same goes for popcorn. Let's be serious. How much does popcorn cost? A tub of popcorn at a theater is \$7.50.

My children want the whole theater experience, which includes a snack. How can a family afford to go to the movies at these prices? Theater owners should be able to make a reasonable profit on the snacks, but this is ridiculous. Sorry, I will continue to bring my snacks in.

KIM IN CALIFORNIA

**DEAR ABBY:** While I agree that it is the theater operators' prerogative to set policy and make money, I have done what the niece is doing, but for different reasons. My children and I are allergic to corn products as well as artificial colors and flavorings—ingredients in every product commonly sold at movie concession stands.

Recently my family has made a different choice. We either eat before we go, or we wait for the DVD and stay home. I would like companies to know that when they exclude outside food, they also exclude my family.

ALLERGIC IN NEW YORK

**DEAR ABBY:** By teaching children that it's OK to cheat on this particular issue, they will generalize that it's OK to cheat ANYTIME, if they don't agree with whoever sets the rules. Thus it may become OK to cheat in school because "he makes the tests too hard," or to engage in underage drinking because "the law is stupid, and besides, everyone does it."

Just wait until they decide it's OK to sneak out of the house when Mom says "no" because "her reasons are lame!" That mother had better be careful when she justifies, because what parents teach their kids will affect them sooner or later.

SUSIE IN OLYMPIA, WASH.

**DEAR ABBY:** "Paying" could search for activities to help them see another way of looking at the world.

Instead of going to a movie, I suggest that the aunt arrange to take the children (with or without her niece) to an outing such as craft time at a library, a visit to a museum, or gather in the kitchen to share a family recipe and donate the food to a local shelter. They could spend an afternoon helping at the local food pantry, which would provide an opportunity for her to discuss values and priorities.

In this way she could interact with her niece and the children and build lasting memories. They could even go to the grocery store and make a game out of seeing how much food they could buy for the amount they would have spent at the movie.

AN AWESOME AUNT IN HEBRON, OHIO

## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### Top prize at Gotham Film Awards ends in tie

**NEW YORK (AP)**—In truly independent fashion, the Gotham Independent Film Awards ended with a tie for Best Feature. Terrence Malick's highly imaginative "The Tree of Life," and Mike Mills' flashback comedy, "Beginners," both received the night's high honor. The unprecedented ruling was announced via video screen to the audience by jury member Natalie Portman who said her peers were "stuck" when it came to selecting a winner, so they "chose to honor both." "The Tree of Life" starred Brad Pitt and Sean Penn, and also won the Palm d'Or at the 2011 Cannes Film Festival. "Beginners" was released last year and stars Ewan McGregor and Christopher Plummer. The Gotham Film Awards kicks off award season, and has honored many Oscar-nominated films, including the 2008 winner for Best Picture, "The Hurt Locker."

### 8 years for rapper Lil Boosie in drug smuggle plot

**BATON ROUGE, La. (AP)**—A Baton Rouge rapper known as "Lil Boosie" has been sentenced to eight years in prison following his guilty plea to drug charges. The 29-year-old rapper's real name is Torrence Hatch. He pleaded guilty Tuesday to conspiring to smuggle codeine, marijuana and ecstasy into two state prisons. They were the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola and Dixon Correctional Institute in Jackson, La. Assistant District Attorney Dana Cummings says Hatch was serving a prison term for a separate conviction for marijuana possession when he smuggled the drugs with help from a prison guard. State District Judge Mike Erwin in Baton Rouge sentenced him to the new prison term. Hatch also faces a first-degree murder charge in the 2009 death of Terry Boyd. The trial is scheduled to start April 30.

### Drummer for Ricky Skaggs dies before SC show

**CLEMSON, S.C. (AP)**—A drummer for Grammy-winning bluegrass legend Ricky Skaggs was found dead in the band's tour bus before a planned performance at Clemson University. Pickens County Coroner Kandy Kelley says 62-year-old Thomas Rody of Kingston Springs, Tenn., was found dead Monday morning. The band was pulling into a hotel parking lot in Clemson before a show at the university after driving through the night from Nashville. Rody and Skaggs were on separate buses. Skaggs and the band's remaining members went on to perform Monday night at Clemson, the first stop on Skaggs' Christmas tour. Kelley says Rody died in his sleep from heart problems. Rody also had cancer, but Kelley says it did not contribute to his death.

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)*







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# Source: Red Sox choose Valentine as manager

By BEN WALKER  
AP BASEBALL WRITER



The Boston Red Sox have picked Bobby Valentine to be their next

manager and the sides were working to complete a contract, a person familiar with the decision told The Associated Press on Tuesday night.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because no announcement had been made. Several media outlets in Boston, citing anonymous sources, reported earlier in the evening that Valentine would be the team's new manager.

An announcement could come by Thursday.

"He's got it. I just spoke to him a little while ago," Hall of Famer Tommy Lasorda, who managed Valentine in the minors with the Los Angeles Dodgers, said in a telephone interview with the AP.

The Red Sox had no comment, spokesperson Pam Ganley said. Valentine would succeed Terry Francona, who left after eight seasons following Boston's record collapse in September.

Francona guided the Red Sox to a pair of World Series championships, in 2004 and 2007.

Valentine was in Japan this week, where he managed from 2004-09, and said he was about to take off on a flight when he sent the AP a text message at 9:48 p.m. Tuesday saying he had no comment on "the Red Sox situation."

Valentine previously managed in the majors with the New York Mets and Texas Rangers. He led the Mets to the 2000 World Series, where they lost to the New York Yankees in five games. He had been working as a baseball analyst for ESPN.

"I'm happy for him. I think the Red Sox got themselves a good manager. In all my years, I've never seen a guy prepare a team for a game like he does. That's what makes him unique," Lasorda said.

The Red Sox also interviewed Gene Lamont, Torey Lovullo, Dale Sveum, Sandy Alomar Jr. and Pete Mackanin. Sveum was hired to manage the Chicago Cubs by former Red Sox general manager Theo Epstein. Mackanin and Alomar were told they were no longer in the running.



ESPN analyst Bobby Valentine speaks to reporters following his interview for the vacant Boston Red Sox manager position, at Fenway Park in Boston on Monday, Nov. 21, 2011.

The Red Sox have gone nearly two months without a manager, but general manager Ben Cherington has noted that Francona wasn't hired until after Thanksgiving—on Dec. 4, 2003.

Valentine's last major league managerial job was with the Mets in 2002.

Three years earlier, he was ejected for arguing a catcher's interference call in the 12th inning of a 14-inning game against Toronto. Valentine then returned to the dugout wearing a fake mustache and sunglasses. The Mets won 4-3, but Major League Baseball suspended him for three games and fined him \$5,000.

The energetic Valentine, 61, has a more confrontational style than Francona, who was known as a player's manager. And that may be just what

the Red Sox need after their late-season flop.

They led the AL East for much of the summer but went 7-20 in September, squandering a nine-game lead in the AL wild-card race and finishing in third place in the division, one game behind Tampa Bay.

Francona and the team parted ways two days after the end of the regular season, with Francona saying the players needed a new voice in the clubhouse. The Red Sox didn't pick up his option for 2012.

Soon after, there were reports of starting pitchers drinking beer and eating fried chicken in the clubhouse during games in which they weren't scheduled to pitch instead of staying on the bench

to support their teammates.

Valentine interviewed on Nov. 21 with Cherington and other members of Red Sox management.

Asked then about his philosophy of discipline, he said, "Discipline is not 30 whacks with a whip these days. But I think everyone likes discipline. I think everyone likes structure. Everyone likes to be acknowledged when they do things properly. Discipline and rules and things like that—it's just about right and wrong."

He also was enthusiastic about the job.

"They have one of the best teams in baseball, one of the best organizations in baseball, one of the greatest venues in baseball, with a winning tradition over the last 10 years," he said. "Other than that, there's really no reason why I want to be here."

And, he said then, if he got the job, "I would feel like it is Christmas."

Hiring a manager would now put Boston's focus on signing free agents. The team has already lost closer Jonathan Papelbon to the Philadelphia Phillies but would like to retain designated hitter David Ortiz. The Red Sox also can use one or two starters and either a setup man or closer in the bullpen.

Valentine was a late addition to the original five-man field of candidates as the Red Sox sought someone with experience as a big league manager. Of the initial group, only Lamont had that.

Valentine managed the Rangers from 1985-92 and the Mets from 1996-2002. He was fired by the Mets after the 2002 season when they finished fifth in the NL East. That was the only one of his six full seasons with the Mets when they ended up below .500.

With the Mets, he clashed publicly with general manager Steve Phillips.

In 2004, Valentine began a six-year managing career in Japan, where he won the Japan Series in 2005 with the Chiba Lotte Marines.

On Nov. 3, he and Red Sox president

and part owner Larry Lucchino took part in Hartford in a program put on by the World Affairs Council on the global rise in the popularity of baseball.

At the time, both said they hadn't discussed the job with each other.

"He's a great man and a great manager and he has a colorful and successful history, so his name inevitably comes up in this day and age," Lucchino said then.

When Cherington was named general manager on Oct. 25, he was asked about the search for the next manager.

"We're not looking for the next star manager," he said. "We're looking for the right fit for the Red Sox in 2012."

He may have gotten both.

A Connecticut native, Valentine won MVP awards in the Pioneer League in 1968 and the Pacific Coast League in 1970, both times with Lasorda as his manager.

"This guy would always rise to the occasion. He would always drive in that big run for you," Lasorda said. "He was sharp. When he came to me in the rookie league, he showed me some real knowledge about the game."

Valentine played second, shortstop, third base and outfield and made it to the majors with the Dodgers from 1971-73. He also was with the California Angels (1973-75), San Diego Padres (1975-77), the Mets (1977-78) and the Seattle Mariners (1979).

His career was derailed by a broken leg sustained when his spikes caught the chain link fence at Anaheim Stadium in May 1973 as he tried to catch a home run hit by Dick Green. Valentine finished with a .260 career batting average, 12 homers and 157 RBIs.

The son-in-law of former major league pitcher Ralph Branca, Valentine has a 1,117-1,072 record as a major league manager, but has never finished in first place in 15 seasons.

In April 2000, he criticized the Mets front office and several players, specifically Bobby Bonilla and Rickey Henderson, while speaking to students at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business.

"He's matured, and I think managing in Japan helped him a great deal," Lasorda said. "Becoming the manager of the Red Sox, that's a privilege and an honor, and I'm sure he's going to do a great job."



MIAMI (AP)—NBA arenas are about to be unlocked.

For the first time since the lockout began on July 1, NBA players are going to be welcomed back to their team facilities, said league spokesman Tim Frank. The league sent a memo to clubs Tuesday announcing the move, plus giving teams permission to begin speaking with agents at 9 a.m. Wednesday—though deals cannot yet be offered, and no contracts can be signed before Dec. 9.

Teams may host "voluntary player workouts" and physicals. Training camps will not open until Dec. 9, and the regular season is expected to begin Christmas Day with marquee matchups, including a Miami-Dallas rematch of last season's NBA finals.

A person familiar with the league's Christmas schedule told The Associated Press on Tuesday that the NBA will feature five games this year on Dec. 25 in-

## NBA teams may host player workouts again

stead of the originally planned three. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the NBA does not plan to announce the Christmas lineup until later this week. The decision for the league to schedule five Christmas games was first reported by The New York Times.

It's not quite business-as-usual yet, but getting facilities open again is a huge boost for both teams and players.

The league also said owners, general managers, and coaches are now free to comment publicly about things such as contracts, plans for future free agent signings, the team's prospects for the upcoming season, and other comments on typical topics. Teams have not been allowed to do that during the lockout and clubs were allowed to make contact with players only with league pre-approval.

And they still can't talk about the league's collective bargaining agree-

ment. At least, not yet.

Since the NBA and its players reached a tentative agreement on how to end the lockout early Saturday morning, neither side has known if workouts would be permitted before camps begin. Such informal workouts are customary, typically beginning 2-3 weeks before camp as players begin getting themselves into the best possible condition.

When NFL camps opened after that league's lockout earlier this year, a number of players—it seemed more than usual, anyway—were either injured in the preseason or rehabilitated from offseason surgeries at a slower pace than first anticipated.

One of the byproducts of the lockout is that it kept players from meeting with team physicians and trainers, as many had been used to for years, and teams tried to find the right balance

between conditioning and protecting players from risking injury by doing too much too soon.

By opening at least a week before training camps formally begin, the NBA may be able to minimize those problems somewhat.

While most of the league's players have been working out on their own or in small groups for weeks anyway, many have said that little can replicate the experience of being at a true NBA facility, replete with training rooms, whirlpools, ice tubs and things of that nature.

Some players, including LeBron James and Dwyane Wade, spent time earlier this month at a makeshift training camp in Oregon in an effort to replicate the NBA workout environment.

"Anything you can do to get your body ready before training camp will help," Wade said at the time, before the tentative settlement was reached.

Allowing teams and agents to resume dialogue is also significant, since there are dozens of players who had contracts expire when last season ended and will try to either re-sign with their most recent teams or find new clubs.

Most NBA teams need to make several roster moves just to have enough players under contract for training camp, so having agents and club executives speaking now will clearly speed up that process.

Among the notable free agents available: Nene, Tyson Chandler, Jamal Crawford, David West, Shane Battier, Caron Butler, Grant Hill, Josh Howard and Samuel Dalembert.

The players and owners eventually came to agreement on the framework of a new 10-year collective bargaining deal, which either side may opt out of after six years. It leaves the NBA with its second shortened season (the first was the 50-game 1998-99 season), with the hope of getting in 66 games instead of a full 82-game schedule.



# Boeheim says he's not worried about job status



SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP)—Syracuse men's basketball coach Jim Boeheim said Tuesday that "what happened on

my watch" will be revealed once police complete their inquiry into child molestation accusations against his former longtime assistant.

"I never worried about my job status in 36 years," Boeheim said at his first postgame news conference since Bernie Fine was fired Sunday. "I do my job. What happened on my watch, we will see. When the investigation is done, we will find out what happened on my watch."

Advocates for sex abuse victims said Boeheim should resign or be fired for adamantly defending Fine and verbally disparaging two former Syracuse ballboys who accused Fine of molesting them.

"Based on what I knew at that time, there were three investigations and nothing was corroborated," Boeheim said. "That was the basis for me saying what I said. I said what I knew at the time."

He said he didn't regret backing Fine when the allegations were first made public.

"I've been with him for 36 years, known him for 48 years, went to school with him," Boeheim said. "I think you owe a debt of allegiance and gratitude for what he did for the program. That's what my reaction was. So be it."

Fine has denied the allegations.

Boeheim received a standing ovation when he walked onto the court that bears his name for the game against Eastern Michigan, beaten by the Orange 84-48. Fine's seat on the bench wasn't vacant this time, though it was at the last home game 10 days ago.

Asked to comment on Boeheim's status earlier Tuesday, Syracuse University Chancellor Nancy Cantor said:

"Coach Boeheim is our coach. ... We're very pleased with what he said Sunday night, and we stand by it."

After initially saying Fine's first two accusers were lying to make money in the wake of the Penn State University child sex abuse scandal, Boeheim backed off those comments.

"What is most important is that this matter be fully investigated and that anyone with information be supported to come forward so that the truth can be found," Boeheim said Sunday night. "I deeply regret any statements I made that might have inhibited that from occurring or been insensitive to victims of abuse."

One of the accusers, Bobby Davis, first contacted Syracuse police in 2002 regarding Fine, but there was no investigation because the statute of limitations had passed. Kevin Quinn, a Syracuse spokesman, said police did not inform the university of Davis' allegations then.

On Tuesday, Syracuse Police Chief Frank Fowler said Dennis DuVal, a former SU basketball player who was police chief in 2002, knew of the allegations against Fine.

Fowler said DuVal, who played for the Orange from 1972-74, was aware of Davis' accusations in 2002 that Fine sexually abused him.

Because Davis said the abuse stopped 12 years earlier, Syracuse Det. Doug Fox told him the statute of limitations had passed, meaning an ar-



Syracuse head coach Jim Boeheim answers questions during a news conference after Syracuse defeated Eastern Michigan 84-48 in an NCAA college basketball game, Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2011, in Syracuse, N.Y.

rest was not possible. Fox advised his supervisor in the abused persons unit, but didn't file a formal report. The detective is still with the department, but not in the same unit.

A phone message left with DuVal was not immediately returned.

On Nov. 17, Davis' allegations resurfaced.

Davis, now 39, told ESPN that Fine molested him beginning in 1984 and that the sexual contact continued until he was around 27. A ball boy for six years, Davis said the abuse occurred at Fine's home, at Syracuse basketball facilities and on team road trips, including the 1987 Final Four. Davis' stepbrother, Mike Lang, 45, who also was a ball boy, also told ESPN that Fine began molesting him while he was in the fifth or sixth grade.

But Boeheim said during his news conference that ballboys have never traveled with the team.

A third man, Zach Tomaselli, who faces sexual assault charges in Maine involving a 14-year-old boy, said Sunday he told police last week that Fine molested him in 2002 in a Pittsburgh hotel room. Also on Sunday, ESPN played an audiotape, obtained and recorded by Davis, of an October 2002 telephone conversation between him and Fine's wife, Laurie. ESPN said it hired a voice recognition expert to verify the voice on the tape and the network said it was determined to be that of Laurie Fine.

During the call to the woman, Davis repeatedly asks her what she knew about the alleged molestation and she says she knew "everything that went on."

"My heart goes out to the families. I have no comment about the Fine situation or the Boeheim situation," former Syracuse star Carmelo Anthony said. "That's a sensitive situation, a sensitive topic right now that I don't even want to go into."

Cantor stressed the university is working with authorities.

"We've been very straightforward

and candid about this whole process," she said. "We've gone through our due diligence when things came up, and we felt it was important both for Bernie Fine and for the university to move forward."

The chancellor has previously acknowledged that a man, now known to be Davis, contacted the school in 2005 with allegations against Fine. The school, which did not contact police, conducted its own investigation at that time but was unable to find any corroboration of the allegations. The university has turned over the results of the inquiry to the DA's office and has retained an independent law firm to review their procedures and response to those 2005 allegations.

The U.S. Attorney's Office and the U.S. Secret Service have taken the lead in the current investigation.

And Fowler said Syracuse police will change their procedures moving forward.

"I was not the chief in 2002 and I cannot change the procedures in place at that time or the way this matter was then handled," Fowler said in the statement. "But what I can and will do as chief today is ensure that moving forward all reports of sexual abuse are formally documented."

In an interview with the AP, Fowler said he wouldn't be notified about all sex abuse allegations. But in a high-profile case like the Fine investigation: "I'm very confident I would know about it. I'm sure it would be brought to my immediate attention."

The chief also said the department only notifies the district attorney when an arrest is made, not during the investigation phase. Onondaga County District Attorney William Fitzpatrick has been sharply critical of the police for not sharing the information from the 2002 allegations or from the current investigation.

Fowler has ordered a review of all department policies regarding sexual abuse allegations made over the phone and will make changes if needed. A

phone database now logs every call the department receives.

He gave this account of what the department knew, and when of the 2002 allegations:

■ A local attorney called Det. Doug Fox of the Syracuse Police Department's Abused Persons Unit in 2002 to say that he'd be getting a call from a woman, now known to be Davis' friend Danielle Roach, who wanted to discuss a sexual abuse case.

■ Several weeks later, Roach called Fox and said Fine had sexually abused her friend. Fox told her to tell her friend to contact him directly. About a month later, he called the detective from Utah. In what Fowler described as a brief conversation, Davis said Fine had sexually abused him while growing up and that the abuse had occurred at least 12 years earlier.

■ Fox told him the statute of limitations had expired, so he couldn't make an arrest. Fox told Davis that if he wanted to meet in person or if he was aware of any current victims, he wanted Davis to share additional information. The two never met face to face.

■ Fox notified his supervisor, and they decided that unless Davis met with the detective or provided names of other victims, then no investigation would be started. No formal report was prepared.

■ Several months later, in 2003, the department received an inquiry from the Syracuse Post-Standard newspaper as to whether an investigation had been conducted on Fine. The Post Standard was informed no investigation had taken place.

Fowler said the police department never met in person with any possible victim until Nov. 17 of this year and began its ongoing investigation on that day.

On that same day, Fowler said, the university handed over results of an internal 2005 investigation into sexual abuse charges against Fine; this was the first time Syracuse police learned of that inquiry.

## Jaguars fire Del Rio after 3-8 start, sell team



JACKSONVILLE, Fla.

(AP)—The Jacksonville Jaguars are headed in a completely new direction.

And Los Angeles doesn't appear to be the destination.

Team owner Wayne Weaver fired longtime coach Jack Del Rio on Tuesday after a 3-8 start and agreed to sell the Jaguars to Illinois businessman Shahid Khan. Weaver named defensive coordinator Mel Tucker the interim coach and gave general manager Gene Smith a three-year contract extension, putting him in charge of the coaching search.

The moves marked the most significant changes for the small-market franchise since its inception in 1993.

"It's the right thing at the right time and for the right reasons," Weaver said. "We deserve better; the community deserves better. We've been very average over the last few years. I take responsibility for a lot of that, making mistakes in some personnel things, but look positive ahead that this team is not far away from being a very competitive football team."

Forbes reported the sale to be worth \$760 million.

Weaver, who will turn 77 in January, had been looking for an "exit strategy" for years, wanting to find someone to buy the team and keep it in Jacksonville. He had tears in his eyes several times as he announced his impending departure.

"It's a little bittersweet, honestly, that it came as soon as it did," Weaver said. "But the main motivation for the exit strategy was to find someone that has the same passion about the NFL, had the same passion about football in Jacksonville as we do, and I found that person."

Khan, 61, believes he is the right choice, too.

"Wayne's legacy will be lasting, and I will always be grateful for Wayne's trust and confidence in my commitment to the Jaguars, the NFL and the people of the Jacksonville community," Khan said in a statement.

Born in Pakistan, Khan left home at age 16 to attend the University of Illinois. He graduated in 1971, a year after he started working for Flex-N-Gate Corp. in Urbana, Ill. He purchased the company in 1980. Today, Flex-N-Gate is a major manufacturer of bumper systems for pickup trucks and sport utility vehicles built in North America.

Khan tried to buy controlling interest in the St. Louis Rams last year.

His purchase of the Jaguars is subject to NFL approval. League owners will vote to ratify the deal Dec. 14, and if it passes, would become official Jan. 4.

The Jaguars could have a new coach in place before then.

"There's a lot of good things that will happen in the future," Smith said.

Del Rio's job security had been tenuous since Weaver said the coach needed to make the playoffs to secure a 10th season in Jacksonville. The Jaguars were essentially eliminated with Sunday's 20-13 loss to AFC South-leading Houston.

"It's the nature of the beast," tight end Mercedes Lewis said. "Change is good sometimes. Obviously, it's an unfortunate situation. ... This is the NFL and unfortunate things happen sometimes."



# All-Schools Cross Country championships this Saturday



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

The 2011 All-Schools Cross Country Championships organized by Northern Marianas Athletics will be held this Saturday morning at the American Memorial Park.

By **WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND**  
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REPORTER



Northern Marianas Athletics' All-Schools Cross Country Championships us set for Saturday morning at the American Memorial Park.

Registration starts at 8:30am and the races begin at 9am.

So far Marianas High School, Saipan Community School, and Hopwood Junior High School have consistently turned in

strong showings in the first three legs of the series.

In last year's finale, held at CPA Field, HJHS' Reanita Kaipat, Rumina Litulumar, and Jaylina Borja swept the podium in the U12 girls division, while teammates Bryan Floresca and Mikayla Lopez took top prize in the U14 boys and girls groups.

In a collective effort, SCS won first place in the U12 boys field, despite a first place finish by HJHS' Berneil Taisacan.

SCS' Haruya Eda, Noel Lim, and Yun Pyo swept the U10

boys podium, while Garapan Elementary School's Joshaly Flores skipped away with U10 girls trophy.

The U12 and U10 groups ran one-mile courses.

MHS dominated the field last year as Michael Mancao, Danny Bai, and Beouch Ngirchongor swept the U18 boys board.

MHS' Reylynn Sapong and Chris Obaldo finished first and second ahead of HJHS' Corina Suda in the U18 girls finals.

Competitors in the high school division ran a two-mile course.

## FA CUP

From Page 28

game, as they were off-island for a separate competition.

With MP United girls U15 and Paire boys U15 winning in separate matches, they will collide in the semifinals in Pool A on Dec. 5 at 4pm at Pitch 1 at Hopwood.

Paire marched into the Final

Four and eliminated Shirley's boys U12 after drawing goals from four different players.

Michael Lee put Paire in the scoreboard with his goal in the first half of the 60-minute game and the score remained at 1-0, as Shirley's failed to find any hole on its foe's defense.

Shirley's continued to struggle offensively in the second half, while Paire was right on the money, getting one goal

each from Gideon Borja, Alan Hinson, and John Auther for the shutout win.

Meanwhile in the Pool B semis, it will be Matansa girls U15 versus MP United boys U12.

Matansa edged Paire girls U15 in a shootout, 2-0, while MP United boys U12 notched a convincing 9-0 victory over Tan Holdings girls U15.

MP United got two goals apiece from three players, while

## SSC Jingle Bell Fun Run set for Dec. 7



The 2011  
Saipan  
Swim Club  
Jingle Bell

Fun Run will be held on Dec. 7.

Registration starts at 4pm, while the race begins at 5pm from the Garapan Fishing Base to Kili Beach. Entrance fee is only \$15, inclusive of tote bags (for the first 100 registered participants) and raffle tickets.

The race from Garapan to the finish line is about five kilometers and runners can enter in the men's and open divisions or student category

Last year, Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel and Mamiko Oshima-Berger ruled the men's and women's divisions with times of 17:57 and 19:30, re-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants in last year's SSC Jingle Bell Run wait for the start of the race at the Garapan Fishing Base.

spectively. In the students division, John Auther of Whispering Palms placed first with his time of 20:15. Hopwood Junior High School's Vinnie Inos timed in at 21:27 to finish second, while Whis-

pering Palms' Logan Mister completed the Top 3 with his 22:59.

For more information about next month's race, call 287-7173 or email at coach@saipan-swimclub.com. (SSC)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## HOLE-IN-ONE DONATION

David M. Sablan of Century Insurance and AON's Tom Bernardo, Lisa Santos, Vanessa Greer, and John Capuyon pose with Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Doug Brennan, SCC executive director Richard Pierce, and SCC coordinator Janice Tenorio at AON offices. AON is giving SCC \$5,000 for a hole-in-one prize in hole No. 3 at Coral Ocean Point. The SCC Holiday Tournament is at COP on Dec. 17.

## ADA

From Page 28

upgrade to the facility.

The synthetic rubber floor panels and retractable bleachers are being installed right now. The panels are made of similar material used in the 2008 Olympics held in Beijing, China.

According to Attao, upon completion, the retractable bleachers are expected to

provide room for about 1,000 spectators.

Workers are applying 4.5 mm synthetic panels on top of 3.3 mm of padding to the floor.

Some people have criticized the installation process and claim that the old flooring was not properly removed, which may cause the new floor panels to bubble up after time.

Attao is aware of such concerns and responded, "We don't know that, only time will tell. We are

going to see what happens and if it turns out there is a problem then we will address the situation."

Attao also reiterated that the materials used are under a manufacturer's warranty and that the situation regarding the high water table under the building is beyond anyone's control.

"High tide and heavy rainfall causes the underground water table to rise. This causes water to seep up underneath the gym floor and there's not really much

three others also lit up the scoreboard. Wataru Tajima hit back-to-back goals in the first half and several minutes later, it was Sun Joon Tenorio's turn to score goals in succession to give MP United a commanding 4-0 half-time advantage.

In the second half, Alex Park started MP United's string of goals and Bada Lee followed it up with two straight goals. Jesus Quitano and Sean Hong

logged MP United's last two goals to complete their demolition of Tan Holdings girls U15.

MP United boys U12 and Matansa girls U15 will play in the semifinals also at 4pm on Dec. 5 at Field 2. Winners of the two semis matches will battle for the FA Cup on Dec. 10 at 1pm at Hopwood.

The FA Cup is the culmination of the boys U12 and girls U15 fall league with Tan Holdings boys U12 and Matansa boys U12 also joining the field, but were eliminated early after bowing to Paire

boys U12 and MP United boys U12, respectively.

Meanwhile, the FA Cup for boys U15 and U18 and two women's teams will begin this Saturday at Hopwood and Oleai Sports Complex pitches. At Hopwood, MP United boys U18 will square off against Paire's women's team at 8:30am, while Matansa boys U18 will challenge Shirley's FC women's squad at 11am. Over at Oleai, MP United Blue will face Matansa boys U15 at 8:30am, while Tan Holdings boys U15 will duel Paire boys U15 at 11am.

## SHIRLEYS

From Page 28

earned 16 games won against only six for TAGA.

Jexter Caranto and Brandon Talania gave Shirley's its first win last Saturday after beating Panapa Peteru and Luis Camacho in the men's C doubles, 21-15, 12-21, 21-18. Shirley's also took its second men's doubles victory when Chris Hilario and Glenn Buljenns swept Jerry Tan and Mahesh Balakrishna in the B division, 21-8, 21-12. Andrew Galvez and Rodwealth Espana handed TAGA its lone victory in the men's dou-

bles after outlasting Hapi Gabriel and Joseph Santos in the A division, 18-21, 21-17, 21-19.

In the women's doubles, Shirley's Malou Malasarte and Roma Barlaio defeated Loyda Ito and Gigi Zapanta in the A division, 24-22, 21-16; Barlaio and Windy Fernandez downed Rose Lazaro and Lani Santos in the C category, 21-7, 21-18; and TAGA's Shirley Kim and Cristy Villafior swept Jaja Samonte and Elma Labuson in the B division, 21-14, 21-15. Shirley's BC's fifth win last Saturday came in the mixed doubles B with Sam Jones and Annette Ta thumping Tan and

Kim, 21-17, 21-11.

TAGA made up for its bad start last Sunday when it topped three of the last four matches and had nine games won, but it was not enough to save the team from elimination.

TAGA ruled both singles matches with Angie Ito downing Malasarte in the women's pairing, 21-14, 21-15, and Galvez dominating Gabriel in the men's field, 21-9, 21-17. In the two remaining mixed doubles matches, TAGA and Shirley's had a split with the former's Luis Camacho and Elna Curate winning over Caranto and Barlaio in the C division, 21-15, 21-17, and Gerry Hibi and Ta get-

ting even with a 21-17, 21-12 triumph over Angie Ito and Espana in the A category.

After a close win against TAGA in the eliminations, Shirley's BC will have an even tougher foe in the semifinals this Friday as it will face the top-seeded Saipan Badminton Club. SBC clobbered Shirley's in their lone meeting in the elimination round, 25-8. The other semis pairing will feature second-ranked Golden Racquet Badminton Club against No. 3 Berks Blazers. Semis matches will be played tomorrow and this Saturday, while the championship round is set for Sunday.

## NMITA

From Page 28

players, especially for the young ones," Race said in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Race added NMITA will be using the donation to pay some of the association's obligations, such as its membership fee to the Oceania Tennis Federation. The NMITA head and CNMI national team coach also thanked Cruz and Tan for taking the lead in organizing the third edition of the Tan Holdings Classic.

"It was hard for first-timers to work things out for a big tournament like this, but they did a great job. I think they put in about 100 hours of volunteer work during the two-weekend competition," Race added.

Tan and Cruz took over the organizing duties for the Tan Holdings Classic from Kirk and Carrie Schuler, who were in charge of the first two editions

of the netfest before leaving the island in October this year.

As for the competition itself, Race was happy to see CNMI youth players continue to improve.

"Our players get better and better. In every tournament, I always see significant improvements from our players," Race said.

The Commonwealth's youth players showed some brilliance in adults and juniors competitions, giving their much tougher and older foes a run for their money. In the men's open division, U18 player Rafael Jones made it all the way to the finals before losing to Micronesian Games gold medalist Todd Montgomery. Then there was Thea Minor's victory in the male-dominated U18 field. The lone female competitor in the U18 singles won the championship against Jones. A few other junior players joined adults competitions (doubles and singles) and made it to the Top 3.



# 3rd Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic

PHOTOS By  
ROSELYN B. MONROY

Guam's Migu Goodman checks on her racquet before serving during her and Sam Lai's championship game in the men's 40-and-above doubles division against Lydia Tan and David Lai.

David Lai makes a return while teammate Migu Goodman looks on.

Jeff Belzer has his eyes on the ball during a consolation game against Daniel Park in the men's open singles.

Mikayla Lopez goes for a backhand return during her and Carol Lee's U15 doubles game against Isabel Heras and Julia Ishikawa.

Dylan Ackerman in action in the boys U15 singles game.

Tania Tan returns to Hanna Nelson and Katherine Atalig during their U12 doubles match.

Isabel Heras gets ready to serve against Mikayla Lopez and Carol Lee.

Jake Lee hits from the baseline against Peter Lai during their men's 4.0 singles match.

Hanna Nelson, right, prepares to serve while Katherine Atalig stays at the backline during their game against Tania and Ami Tsukagoshi.







**Source: Red Sox choose Valentine as manager**

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

**Boeheim says he's not worried about job status**



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## FA Cup semis cast complete

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The 2011 Boys and Girls FA Cup (boys U12 and girls U15) is now down to four teams after the second round was played last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.



Left standing in the 10-team FA Cup are Paire boys U12, MP United girls U15, MP United boys U12, and Matansa girls U15, which prevailed in their respective matches last weekend.

Paire boys U12 challenged Shirley's FC boys U12 in the first game at Pitch 2 and won, 4-0, while over the Pitch 1, MP United girls U15 was the victory via forfeiture against Shirley's FC girls U15. Shirley's was forced to forfeit the match, as some of its players could not make it to the 1pm

**See FA CUP on Page 26**

A Matansa girls U15 player makes a throw-in during their game against Paire in the FA Cup last Saturday at the Hopwood Junior High School Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Workers assemble the new retractable bleachers at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium on Tuesday.

## Ada Gym expected to re-open Dec. 30

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND  
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REPORTER

Renovations to the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium are tentatively scheduled to conclude by Dec. 30 according to Division of Sports and Recreation director Joseph "Jojo" Attao.

"We are about 80 percent finished with the renovation project. The fencing at the Miguel 'Tan Ge' Pangelinan Ballfield was finished back in May; the work on the roof and the restrooms are finished and right now we are assembling the new bleachers and installing the synthetic rubber floor panels," said Attao.

The project was originally expected to finish on Oct. 1, however the process was stalled due to the late delivery of building materials.

The locker rooms and the front entrance bathrooms have also been renovated,

but renovations to the weight room are not covered under the Community Development Block Grant. The locker rooms are finished, but Attao said these will not be available until the reopening of the gymnasium; the front restrooms are open and running.

Notably, although not renovated yet the weight room is open to the public for just \$1 a day. However, it will be closed on holidays and austerity Fridays.

Attao said workers have also fixed the leaks on the roof by installing a brand new roofing kit. The kit is also designed to prevent future leaks.

Moreover, nine wind turbines designed to increase air circulation and cool off the inside of the building have been installed on the roof, providing another needed

**See ADA on Page 26**

## Shirley's BC saves playoff seat

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



Shirley's Badminton Club caught the last trip to the playoff round of the 5th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton

Shirley's Badminton Club's Roma Bar-lao eyes the shuttlecock during her and Malou Malasarte's women's doubles A game against Loyda Ito and Gigi Zapanta in the Traders Insurance tournament last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

ton Team Tournament after beating TAGA Badminton Club in a make-or-break match over the weekend at the TSL Sports Complex.

TAGA and Shirley's BC were at the bottom two of the five-club field before last weekend's final pairing and an 18-15 victory moved the latter to the semis and booted out the former. Shirley's BC finished fourth with 61 games won, only six more against TAGA (55).

Shirley's BC boosted its playoff chances after prevailing in five of the first seven matches played last Saturday. After the initial duel, Shirley's



## NMITA receives \$2K from Tan Holdings Classic

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



Proceeds from the 3rd Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic, amounting to \$2,000 were donated to the Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association last Sunday during the awards presentation for the annual competition.

NMITA president Jeff Race received the donation from tournament directors Bobby Cruz and Lydia Tan in a turnover ceremony at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.



"Every time you put together a competition that will move your sport forward, having sponsors like the Tan Siu Lin Foundation is a key part in ensuring its success. We are very thankful to the Tan Siu Lin Foundation for playing a role in helping NMITA become one of the best programs in the region by sponsoring tournaments for our

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NMITA president Jeff Race, center, receives the \$2,000 donation from 3rd Annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic tournament directors Bobby Cruz, left, and Lydia Tan, during a turnover ceremony at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan last Sunday.